# Air Raids Intensifying Over Capital Of Chechnya

Russians Vow to Press Bombing Campaign to Prepare 'Resolute Steps'

By Steven Erlanger

MOSCOW - Russian bombing raids intensified sharply Thursday over Grozny. the capital of hreakaway Chechnya, as reports of strong dissent within the Russian military command continued to

At least 24 people were reported to have died in Grozny, the Chechen capital, in a sharp escalation of bombing and shelling that hit apartment blocks as well as more strategic targets, like the Lenin oil refinery, and caused panic in the streets,

Some missiles hit crowds of people who were working to clear away the debris from nighttime bombing. Reuters reported from the city. Among those killed was an American freelance photographer, Cynthia El-

Russian officials said the intense bombing raids would continue through the night as a prelude to "resolute steps" to try to put a quicker end to what has hecome a full-blown military and political crisis in

At the same time, President Boris N. Yelisin told the Russian Parliament in a letter that be was preparing a solution to the conflict "based mainly on using politi-cal methods" and that he would address the Russian people "in the coming days" with his plans. The Itar-Tass news agency said a group of Yeltsin aides was at work on proposals for a peaceful resolution.

Mr. Yeltsin's statement may have been prompted by new and strong indications that his military commanders are balking at the idea of an all-out assault on Grozny, town with practically no air defenses.

The semiofficial Itar-Tass reported, e.on retracted, a story detailing a large purge in the Russian command.

The agency, in a report from the Russian military headquarters in Mozdok, said that the defense minister. Pavel S. Grachev, relieved six top commanders of their duties ness and inaction," implying that they bad opposed the new military line. It said General Grachev would assume full, operative command of the operation against Chechnya, a tiny mountainous state of only 1.3 million people that has been defying Moscow for three years since declaring independence.

The report said the officers who were relieved included First Deputy Defense Minister Georgi Kondratyev and the dep-

my commander of Russian ground troops See CHECHNYA, Page 4

# North Koreans Offer Airspace And Landings

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

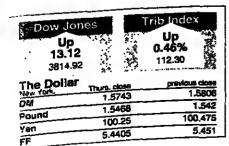
TOKYO - In what could be another step toward ending its international isolation, North Korea announced Thursday that it was planning to allow commercial airlines from other countries to fly over its

territory and land at its airports.

The official North Korean press agency,
CNA, said that North Korea would offer "the facilities and services for appropriate airline operation without discrimination" to foreign aircraft. It said North Korea in narticular wanted to establish an air route linking Tokyo and Beijing through Pyongyang, the North Korean capital.

Analysts said the move could improve North Korea's economic relations with the rest of the world, but cautioned that it was unclear bow far the Communist nation was willing to go. But some said it appeared North Korea was more interested in letting airlines fly over its territory than in allowing them to provide service to North Kore-an cities, which would bave a much bigger impact on opening up the reclusive nation. The announcement of its new open-

See KOREA, Page 4



**Newsstand Prices** 



Rescuers carrying a woman wounded in a raid by Russian bombers on Thursday in the Chechen capital of Grozny.

# Russian Troops in No Fighting Mood

By Lee Hockstader

SLEPTSOVSKAYA, Russia -- All quiet on the western front — except for the griping of unhappy Russian soldiers.

At a bleak country crossroads an bour's drive from the Chechen capital, Grozny, a sorry little detachment of Russian troops has dug into the frozen ground while the politicians in Moscow argue about their

Few of them want to be here, and fewer still are enticed by the prospect of an assault on Grozny, where several thousand Chechen fighters swear they are ready to kill Russians in the name of Allah.

"Of course it's not worth it," said Alexander, 18, a draftee with a wisp of a mustache. "It's a struggle for ower, but soldiers shouldn't he used in a power

Less than two weeks after they moved into Chechnya, Russian troops in the region are in a funk. Poor morale, frigid weather and political indecision have stalled their advance and sapped their will

The general in charge of the armored column west of Grozny announced last week he would not advance against Che-chen civilians. Anti-Chechen propaganda in Moscow appears to be more damaging to the Russians than the Chechens. Only sketchy news reports reach the Russian troops, most of them beavy-hand-

ed propaganda from Moscow. Several sol-diers here said they had beard, for example, that Chechen fighters are being assisted by Afghan mujahidin rebels.

True or not, that information is very likely intended to depict the Chechen drive for independence as under the influence of

Russia's former enemies. But the unintended effect here is to stir anxiety among the troops, who are acutely aware that the mujahidin are experienced fighters who bloodied the Russian nose in Afghanistan.

The poor morale of the Russians is in contrast with the armed defenders in Grozny, whose resolve seems to stiffen with each Russian air raid, artillery bombardment and civilian casualty. The Chechens "are determined to fight at any cost because people are so angry," a Chechen Foreign Ministry spokesman told the BBC

The morale problems further suggest that, despite overwhelming Russian superiority in firepower, any order to storm Grozny will be met with scant enthusiasm.

One young recruit from Volgograd, who See TROOPS, Page 4

# Berlusconi Resigns, **Leaving Italy Mired** In Political Disarray

By Alan Cowell New York Times Service

ROME — Prime Minister Silvio Berlus-coni resigned Thursday after seven months in office, confronted by a revolt within his governing alliance that has left Italians facing confusion, possible elections and the near certainty that, whatever their next

government, it will not survive for long.

To add to his woes on a bleak day, Mr.
Berlusconi's younger brother, Paolo, received a five-month suspended jail term on corruption charges, recalling the scandals that brought down the country's onetime political elite and now haunt its successor.

Mr. Berlusconi handed his resignation to President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who, in turn, "reserved judgment" on whether to accept it, a formality designed to allow Mr. Berlusconi to stay on as caretaker while the president seeks a way out of the impasse. But the complexities facing Mr. Scalfaro

seemed only to deepen with word that the Northern League, the coalition partner that inspired the parliamentary rebellion, had started to split, with some of its 105 lower house deputies remaining loyal to Mr. Bertusconi.

The developments brought the end of Italy's 52d postwar government. But Mr. Berlusconi's resignation also marked the failure of Italy's first attempt to devise a new political system after years of scandal that destroyed a political old guard mired in what investigators believe to have been

Paolo Berlusconi was sentenced in Milan on Thursday after magistrates found him guilty of paying illicit contributions

worth \$90,000 to the now-discredited Christian Democrais, funds he said were a personal contribution. However, the court found that he had paid the money to secure

a garbage-removal contract.

The sentencing came only days after the prime minister himself was interrogated for seven hours by the Milan magistrates, who, over the last three years, have uncov-

ered Italy's huge bribery scandals. After being questioned, Mr. Berlusconi said the magistrates had produced no evidence to substantiate their suspicions that he knew of bribes paid to the tax police hy executives of his Fininvest empire, includg his brother.

The interrogation nonetheless damaged Mr. Berlusconi politically, even as the Northern League and the parliamentary opposition, the Democratic Party of the eft, successors to the Communists, and the Popular Party, successors to the Christian Democrats, were preparing to chal-

Mr. Berlusconi resigned to avoid the bumiliating spectacle of defeat in no-confidence motions prepared by his adversaries. who claimed the support of 325 legislators the 630-seat lower bouse.

Under Italian law, Mr. Scalfaro may appoint a prime minister-designate to seek new parliamentary majority among the array of disparate groups — from neofascists to hard-line Communists — who have replaced Italy's former political players.

Mr. Berlusconi, however, is pressing Mr. Scalfaro to reappoint him to lead the na-

See ITALY, Page 4

# Markets on Edge as Mexico Floats Peso By Lawrence Malkin

International Herald Tribune
NEW YORK — Mexico freed the peso on Thursday, letting it float against other currencies as a way to combat The Umical States offered financial support, and investors said the Mexican

government was doing the right thing, although rebuilding confidence would As the peso lost about 14 percent of its value against the dollar, on the heels of a 15 point drop Wednesday, anxiety

spread to other Latin American markets that have shared in the boom in so-called emerging economies markets the last few years (Page 11).
Officials in Mexico and other coun-

tries, meanwhile, tried to reassure inves-

tors, and the Argentine government cur-phasized that its currency was linked to the dollar by law.

After the U.S. Treasury activated a \$6 billion facility to help bolster the peso, Finance Minister Jaime Serra Puche of Mexico flew to New York and summoned representatives of an international group of about 70 commercial and investment banks to a meeting in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York attended by Treasury Undersecretary Lawrence Summers.

Mr. Serra Puche, a former commerce minister who moved to his present portfolio when a new government took office Dec. 1, said Mexico's currency adjustments were a one-time measure to deal with speculation.

He pledged that the government

would cut domestic demand by 5 percent and maintain an anti-inflation program with the cooperation of husiness and labor. This adds up to a classic postdevaluation austerity program; what worries foreign investors is whether the new government of President Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de Léon can keep the social peace to see it through.

After the government angered many foreign fund managers Tuesday by de-valuing the peso by 15 percent without warning, the Mexican central bank spent more than \$4 billion buying pesos in an unsuccessful attempt to hold the new rate as foreigners and Mexicans pulled out their money. Interest yields on government securi-

See PESO, Page 4

Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi leaving the Quirinale Palace in Rome after presenting his resignation on Thursday to President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro.

# Subway Suspect Arrested in Burn Ward

NEW YORK - A man critically injured by a firebomh that shot flames through a crowded subway car was arrested in his bospital bed Thursday and charged with attempted murder and assault. Officials said the bomb may have been part of a planned extortion attempt.

Edward J. Leary, 49, an unemployed computer operator from Scotch Plains, New Jersey, was charged with 45 counts. The bomb went off in his hands, and more bomb-making materials were found in his home, Police Commissioner William J. Bratton said.

Mr. Leary was under police guard at the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Cen-ter, where he was in critical condition with burns to his face, knuckles and legs. He was one of 45 people injured, four critical-

Mr. Bratton said that Mr. Leary evidently planned to use the firebomh in an extortion plot aimed at the Transit Anthority.

"Significant evidence," including bomb-making materials recovered at Mr. Leary's bloody below the knees, Michael Ruiz, a New Jersey home, led to that conclusion, Mr. Bratton said.

dolph Giuliani said.

The explosion of the crude firebomh Wednesday sent holiday shoppers into hysterics and triggered an emergency response that tied up downtown streets for hours. It occurred just one block east of the World Trade Center, where a terrorist bomb killed six people and hurt 1,000 in February 1993.

Governor-elect George Pataki issued a statement urging the death penalty for the person responsible for the firebombing.

John Kifner of The New York Times

The man in the Clark Street sunway station in Brooklyn was hurting. His sneakers and the legs of his blue

police officer, remembered later. There were hurns on his arm, his face and hurn It was still not clear if the bomb went off marks on his knuckles through the tatters accidentally or intentionally, Mayor Ru-

The two encountered each other about a half-hour after the burst of flame in a crowded No. 4 train injured 45 people as the subway pulled into the Fulton Street station in the Manhattan financial district. Mr. Ruiz and his partner in the 84th Precinct, Anthony Roa, were answering a ra-dio call for aid at the first stop in Brooklyn.

"I'm in pain," the man said, staggering near the token booth. They put him in an ambulance.

Then, as they sped toward the burn unit of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, a description came over their radios of a suspect in the subway explosion. They looked at the man riding with them:

See SUBWAY, Page 4

### Klosk

# Fishing Accord Clears Entries to EU

BRUSSELS (Reuters) -- The European Union, overriding British objections, agreed to a deal on fishing rights on Thursday that removed the last barrier to Austria, Finland and Sweden joining the

Spain had threatened to hold up the entry of the three unless the 12-member hloc kept a pledge to give Spain and Portugal access to the EU's western water. Delicib and Link Statembers have ters. British and Irish fishermen have fiercely resisted moves to give the Spanish fleet, the Union's largest, equal access to waters around their coasts

They agreed, with a British abstention. to a compromise put forward by the German EU presidency under which 40 Spanish vessels will have access to the socalled "Irish box" area except for the Irish Sea and the Bristol Channel. The area is a fisheries protection zone sur-rounding Ireland.

Page 7.

Page 7.

Page 19.

Page 20.

Book Review Bridge Crossword Weather

# Bistro Is a Vanishing Breed as 'Le Stress' Takes Its Toll on the French

By Marlise Simons New York Times Service

PARIS - Henri Miquel, the owner, knows what most of his regulars want. The early-morning customers at Le Dufrenoy, his bistro, wolf down croissants and espressos, sometimes laced with a burning shot of calvados.

At midday, copious plates of beef stew or lentils with ham zip along the Formicatopped tables. Afternoons are for flirting students and lovers of pinball machines.

The after-work crowd comes in to decom-

It seems a suitable spot to ask why the bistro, that monument of French street culture, has been declared a vanishing breed. According to Le Limonadier, the trade journal, some 4,000 bistros -France's homey cafes - are going out of business every year.

"The French lifestyle is changing," said Mr. Miquel, who bas reigned over his counter for 18 years, 15 hours a day. Late-

ly, though, he has started to close at 8 instead of midnight.

"The Parisians are becoming like Americans," he went on with tangible disdain. "They're in a hurry. They buy take-out food instead of sitting down and eating in peace. At might they rush off to watch

The dwindling of France's cafes has be-come a subject of study and debate. Cafes after all have served for plotting revolutions, organizing artists' and workers'

movements, writing books, reading news-papers and forgetting one's troubles. So why, after almost three centuries of using the bistro as living room, study, game parlor and confessional, are the French now staying away?

The answer invariably includes "le stress," that plague of the new urban generation, which keeps busy schedules and leaves little time for idling over drinks, let alone for writing or playing cards.

Lunch breaks have shrunk from two or

three hours to one. "Only people who are the boss or work for the government stay out long," said Genevieve La Tortue, a waitress who has watched bistro clients in the heart of Paris for 15 years. The many people on diets are also bad for husiness. And there is the rise of "le cocooning," relaxing at home at night.

> Behind his counter, Mr. Miquel complained that he and his fellow cafe keepers "now suffer a lot of unfair competition."

See BISTRO, Page 4

Critical Albanians say they tend to reflect

wishful thinking in a capital where even such

elementary things as household electricity and

tap water are more often wished for than

painting a positive picture.

Among diplomats, the consensus of the unem-

Even this number is misleading. About 65

percent of Albanians are subsistence farmers,

now that the big collective farms have been

greatly reduced Albania's reliance on foreign

Throughout the country one sees the wrecks of

ployment rate is at least 30 percent.

gifts to feed the nation.

Unemployment statistics, like other data, are greenhouses, their windows shattered, with no

New Albania: Wishful Thinking and Exported Workers

called the International Cultural Center, al-

though the few occupants of its offices, devoted

visitor's query. "His temple," he scoffed. He spoke in Italian, which Albanians of all classes

learn from Italian television, this once secluded

Albanian officials and well-wishers in the resi-

dent foreign community, eager to see progress in Europe's poorest country, point to the coffee

shops and bar kiosks in the capital and other

economy and material progress.
Yes and no, said a United Nations official of

long Albanian experience.

"The kiosks give a very deceptive impression,"

towns, as a sign of growth of a private-enterprise

"Museum of Hoxha?" a janitor parroted a

to commerce, do not warrant the name.

country's main window to the world.

coup attempt. Power in Burundi has traditionally been concentrated in the hands of Tutsi, who make up 14 percent of the population Burundi has remained unsta- and who control the armed

ly elected president, Melchior

Ndadaye, a Hutu, was assassi-

nated by soldiers in October

Liberian Warlords Pledge End to Fight

### isible effort to repair them. In the past they grew early-season fruits and vegetables, which went to Western Europe for hard currency, still Albania's principal scarcity.

In mindless rage against the collective regime, Albanians at its fall smashed many of its strucforthcoming.

Dylber Vrioni, who was governor of the Bank tures - factories, storehouses, stables, clinics,

of Albania before becoming finance minister in a 970 of the country's 8,000 schools. recent cabinet reshuffle, said about 18 percent of Few have been repaired. Except for Few have been repaired. Except for stepped up the work force of 1.7 million was jobless. He is residential building, sparse signs of urban ecoalso chairman of the governing Democratic Par-ty for Tirana and does not deny his interest in Moreover, Mr. Vrioni

Moreover, Mr. Vrioni conceded that it was uncertain whether Albania's principal money earners of the past, its copper and chromium mines, will ever resume production.

Their equipment is so antiquated that unless world metal prices rise sharply the foreign investments needed to make them competitive are

parceled out to private owners. They are counted as employed, which is only partly true.

Nonetheless, the resumption of farming has financed from the country's principal export—

financed from the country is principal export—

financed from the country i workers. Mr. Vrioni said that 300,000 to 400,000 Albanians were working abroad, mainly in Greece. Virtually all work illegally at less than what in the Communist years was an important source of exports. They are the skeletons of large million to \$300 million this year, he said.

# WORLD BRIEFS

# Man Shot Outside White House Dies

requent L WASHINGTON (AP) - The knife-wielding homeless man shot by the police in front of the White House has died after

undergoing two long operations.

Marcelino Corniel, 33, died Wednesday from cardiac arrest in the intensive care unit at George Washington University Hospital,

said Rich James, a hospital spokesman. Mr. Comiel was shot once in the abdomen and once in his right leg by a uniformed U.S. Park Police officer about 9 A.M. Tuesday after he ran across Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House sidewalk with a hunting knife taped to his arm. He was shot after failing to obey orders to drop the knife.

# A New Low in Poll for British Tories

LONDON (AFP) - Britain's Conservative government is more unpopular than any government at any time in British polling history, according to the latest MORI opinion survey,

published Thursday.
Only 8 percent said they were satisfied with the government's performance. The poll of 1,769 voters interviewed from Dec. 15 to 19 was published in The Times.

The poll puts support for the opposition Labor Party at 61 percent, compared with 55 percent a month ago, while support for Conservatives is at 22 percent, down from 24. Support for the second major opposition party, the Liberal Democrats, has also fallen, from 17 to 13 percent.

# Chinese Dissident Goes Into Hiding

BEIJING (Reuters) — A leading Chinese dissident, Wang Dan, has shaken off police surveillance and gone into hiding after the police threatened to kill him, he said Thursday by telephone from an undisclosed location.

"I have a home, but f cannot go home," Mr. Wang said during the call. "I need some quiet to read books, and I cannot stand the harassment, so I was forced to leave."

narassment, so I was locel to leave.

The New York-based China Human Rights group demanded that Beijing stop what it called police harassment of Mr. Wang, a former student leader of the 1989 pro-democracy demonstrations that were crushed by the army.

# **Dublin to Release 9 IRA Prisoners**

DUBLIN (Renters) — The Justice Ministry said Thursday it would free nine convicted Irish Republican Army prisoners whose early release last month was halted by a fatal IRA robbery in Northern Ireland

The move, which had been expected, was announced by Justice Minister Nora Owen after a review of their cases, officials said. Officials said about 30 more IRA prisoners would be released on

They said those to be freed indefinitely would have to meet very strict criteria of good behavior and would be expected to report to

Miffied Victory for G

# Malaysia to Cane White-Collar Crooks

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - Parliament has approved a law that makes caning mandatory for white-collar crimes, which are on the rise here, accounting for 15 percent of all

"The purpose of caning white-collar criminals is to shame them," Justice Minister Syed Hamid Albar said. The law provides for whipping for such crimes as embezzlement, tax fraud and bribery

The bill also eliminates jury trials, which were being used only for first-degree murder cases. The whippings for white-collar criminals will not be as severe as those given to violent offenders,

# Seized Uranium Is Weapons-Grade

PRAGUE (Renters) - Final results from tests on the biggest seizure of illicit uranium have confirmed that it was highly enriched, weapons-grade material, the Czech Interior Ministry! said Thursday,

The material, which the police seized from a car on a Prague street last week, was 87.7 percent enriched uranium-235, just slightly below the 90 percent level preferred hy bomb makers but still of weapons-grade, a ministry spokesman said. The radioactive material seized weighed 2.72 kilograms (6 pounds), he said. The police detained a Czech nuclear physicist and two citizens of the former Soviet Union when they stopped their car in Prague

### For the Record

38, a U.S.-educated computer entrepreneur and Jordan's former Middle East peace team spokesman, as the kingdom's first ambas-sador to the Jewish state, Jordan said Thursday. (Reuters)

# TRAVEL UPDATE

# 7 EU Nations to End Border Controls

BERLIN (AP) - After years of delay caused by worries about crime and waves of refugees, border controls within Europe will be eliminated March 26, at least for seven of the 12 members of the European Union.

The accord "is a historic step on the way to full freedom of movement in all Europe and means an increase in security for our citizens," the German minister of state for security services, Bernd Schmidbauer, said Thursday in Bonn.

Ministers from the participating countries — Portugal, Spain, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands met in Bonn to complete the accord, which means that inner-European border controls that already have partly disappeared will fall away completely. Italy and Greece have said they will join when they overcome technical problems. The only EU members not in the pact are Britain, Ireland and Denmark.

The first regular Channel Tunnel shuttle trains for vehicles and passengers made the crossing between Britain and France on Thursday, arriving on schedule and taking 35 minutes for the

Spanish train engineers began a 24-hour strike Thursday, and most other railroad employees were planning to strike Friday, disrupting traffic on the Christmas weekend. The drivers, who struck Dec. 2 and 11, plan another strike Dec. 30. (AFP)

Croatia has ordered striking railroad workers to return to work under a law designed to prevent threats to national security, government officials said Wednesday. The two-week-old strike has paralyzed passenger and cargo traffic. (Reuters)

Thousands of people hoping to leave Athens for the Christmas and New Year weekends were dealt a hlow by two civil aviation employee strikes scheduled for 48 hours before each holiday. The first strike was to begin at midnight Thursday, and the second at the same time next week. The action was expected to affect 70 (Reuters, AP) percent of domestic and foreign flights.

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00-42-000112 Vatican City (CC)

0800-012-77 To call the U.S. using MERCURY

### government and the omnipotent Communist Party, and the auditoriums for command perfor-By Henry Kamm New York Times Service mances of enforced enthusiasm. TIRANA, Albania — The grand boulevard The most modern of them, a museum to the glory of Enver Hoxha, the late leader, is now

that is this bedraggled capital's main street has sprung to a life it never knew before. The avenue once bore Stalin's name but now has a name good for all political seasons — Boulevard of the Heroes of the Nation. It stretches from the university built in the 1930s in the Fascist style favored by Mussolini to the vast square with the dilapidated museum, concert hall and hotel in the mode of the 1960s Communist heyday.

Over the last year it has sprouted any number of shacks with a few plastic tables and chairs, inside and out, featuring espresso machines as their main equipment. They are cafes. One, the Las Vegas, has taken over the spot once filled by

the Stalin Monument. Commerce, exemplified by these cafés and street vendors, had never been a feature of the broad boulevard. It is a street not meant to be

lived in but to awe the people. In a country that has known only foreign occupation and native dictatorship, the boule-vard was the translation into stone of the menac-

he said. "Even though they generate some in-come, they tell you a sad story. They are full from early in the morning till closing time. This speaks for a lot of people who are in all likelihood ing power of Albania's harsh regimes. Its massive buildings housed the anthorities of

**Swiss Budget Cutters** 

# Clip Army's Platoon **Of Carrier Pigeons**

By Robert L. Kroon onal Herald Tribune GENEVA — Lack of both funds and potential invaders plus geopolitical change have forced a drastic overhaul of that hallowed bulwark of Swiss neutrality, the 600,000-strong citi-

Under the Swiss Army 1995 Doctrine, the militia will be reduced to 400,000, horder and mountain-fortification brigades will be abolished and the accent will be on a more mobile, hightech defense force. For starters, the air force has ordered 32 U.S.-built F-18 fighter-bombers to replace more than a hundred 37-year-old British Hawker Hunter jets, which were phased out last week.

Grounding the Hunters caused less controversy than the budget hawks' decision to also eliminate 30,000 doves — in this case, the army's 77-year-old

carrier-pigeon detachment. This has raised a ruckus in dovecotes around the country.

# German Team Gives Birth to A New Element

New York Times Service NEW YORK (NYT) - A

for less than two-thousandths of a second, scientists hailed the achievement as a landmark in

in the periodic table, with a nucleus containing 111 protons and 161 neutrons, was the latest achievement of the Gesellschaft für Schwerionenforschung (Society for Heavy Ion Research) Laboratory at Darmstadt. Last month, the laboratory reported

the discovery of Element 110. The chemical and physical properties of an element cannot be investigated during the ephemeral existence of only three atoms, but because of the number of protons in its nucleus, Element 111 falls in the same column of the periodic table as copper, silver and gold, so it is presumably a metal. The element has not been named.

NEW YORK (NYT) — A team of German physicists reported that they had succeeded in creating, detecting and identifying three atoms of a new element.

A away."

The nation's 266 keepers of carrier pigeons have offered to assume the cost for the military preparedness of their birds. The government announced a night curiew to try to curh

Although the atoms survived nuclear physics.

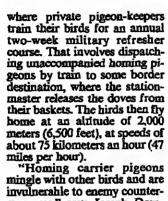
The creation of Element 111



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invulnerable to enemy countermeasures," says Joseph Domjan, an officially certified military pigeon-keeper. "They are as useful today as they were 70

Grounding the birds will save the Swiss government 600,000 Swiss francs (\$460,000) a year in pigeons' railroad fares, feed and 25 centimes per dove a year for upkeep expenses. Protests notwithstanding, the government says the measure stands.

The first affected will be pri-

vate owners' 23,000 hird conscripts, because the army intends to hold onto its own squadron of 7,000 "military li-

squadron of 7,000 "military li-alson doves" for the time being.
"Ultimately, they will have to go as well," says Patrick Cu-dree-Mauroux, spokesman for the Defense Department. "But we don't intend to exterminate them. They will be sold or given

Defense Department says it is impressed by the patriotic gesture, but it has not formally responded Even some high-ranking

Swiss officers say scratching the pigeon detachments is a birdbrained decision. This year, Division Commander Hans-Rudolf Fehrlin said that modern military communications can be intercepted by the enemy or jammed by electronic countermeasures, in which case "one or preferably two homing pigeons could be highly useful

"During World War II," he said, "pigeons played an important role in safeguarding our neutrality."

Sam Iselin, the Defense Department's carrier pigeon spe-cialist, concurs. "A good bird can cover a distance of 950 kilometers, more than enough for a country the size of Switzer-

from 7 P.M. to 7 A.M.

Havry's Bar ® Just tell the taxi driver,

"Sank roo doe noo" 8

5, rue Daunou Paris (Opéra)

### **Burundi Sets Curfew After Ethnic Killings** at least a dozen homes and sent day night that he believed the hundreds of people fleeing to curfew was a positive measure. BUJUMBUKA, Burundi — He called on the army to use

previous pacts fall apart.

Soldiers patrolled the Burundi other districts and to Zaire. In October and November, capital, Bujumbura, on Thursday after a surge of Hatu-Tutsi hundreds of people in Burundi order and said the army and the killings prompted a French were killed in attacks by Hutu police had not been at sufficient killings prompted a French government minister to voice extremists and in reprisals by fears of ethnic massacres on the the Tutsi-dominated army. The United Nations' special day.

envoy to Burundi, Ahmedou a night curfew to try to curh violence, centered in Bujumbura's northeastern district of

Bwiza, that has killed nearly 30 But shooting and grenade ex-plosions could be heard overnight coming from Bwiza, a mixed Hntu-Tutsi area from which Hutu residents are con-

tinuing to flee. The capital's residents stayed indoors Thursday, and most business was at a halt.

The French cooperation minister, Bernard Debre, said he feared Burundi might face massacres between the Hutu majority and Tutsi minority similar to those in Rwanda, where up to a million people have been killed

"f hope reason will prevail hut, if it doesn't, there could be l million to 2 million dead," Mr. Debré said in a radio interview after a visit to the country.

Burundi radio, quoting Interior Minister Jean-Baptiste Manwangari, said the government had imposed a curfew

Fighting on Tuesday and Wednesday in Bwiza destroyed

# Foul Condition of QE2 Has Cunard in Hot Water

meet passengers on the luxury liner Queen Elizabeth Il who

desperately trying to repair "exploding" toilets. "ft's hell on board," said a passenger, who called the ship the "QE14."

on their cabins had not been finished. After picketing Cunard's London offices, they were offered compensation.

Those who did sail were also demanding money back.

Cunard insisted that conditions on the ship were not as bad as

Compiled by Our Stoff From Disputcher Wednesday, calls for a cease-MONROVIA, Liberia — Li-fire from midnight Dec. 28 and guerrilla leader, Charles Taylor, beria's militia warlords have elections on Nov. 14. It includes pledged to end five years of civil agreement on the composition via, the capital. war, but the accord was greeted of a five-member ruling council with skepticism by many Libe- to run the country until an rians, who have seen numerous elected government can take

over on Jan. f, 1996. The latest agreement, signed The accord offers hope be-

in the Ghanaian capital, Accra, cause all seven warlords signed shortly hefore midnight on it. But it is a pact that many

order and said the army and the

strength in trouble spots at times on Tuesday and Wednes-

MOSCOW METERS - Russian motorists Thursday trying out the newfangled objects set up in the city's streets.

LONDON - Cunard's chairman agreed on Thursday to threatened a mutiny after faulty plumbing and repair prob-lems turned their holiday into a foul-smelling fiasco.

A spokesman for the shipping line said the chairman, John Olsen, would fly to New York, where the vessel was due to

dock, and meet passengers planning a sit-in Friday.

Many of the 600 travelers are demanding compensation after the ship set sail with its refit unfinished and plumbers About 500 passengers were left behind in England when the Christmas cruise began earlier this week because renovations

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1-800-624-8721 Luxembo

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to mount a new siege of Monro-Many also worry that this accord, like many in the past, will

not hold.

We have seen so many agreements and the killing nev-er stopped," a local businessman said. "We will celebrate when the fighters put down their guns.

Ghana's president, Jerry J. Rawlings, who hrokered the accord, was equally restrained. "If you make it possible for

your people to know peace once again," he told the warring fac-tions, "they will remember you with pride but if you fail to restore normalcy to your country their judgment will be Liberia, Africa's oldest inde-

pendent republic, was settled

freed American slaves in 1822. An estimated 150,000 people have died in civil war and anarchy since rebels led by Mr. Taylor, a former civil servant, invaded on Christmas Eve

The latest agreement builds on one signed hy Mr. Taylor and two other militia leaders in the Ghanaian town of Akosombo in September.

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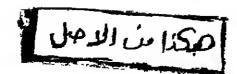
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# THE AMERICAS /

# Frequent Use of 2 Painkillers Raises Risk of Kidney Failure

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WASHINGTON — Prolonged or frequent use of two common over-the-counter pain nedicines — including acetaminophen, the most popular painkiller in the United States - increases a person's chances of developing irreversible kidney failure, results of a new

Adults who take the equivalent of more than two tablets of ibuprofen a day for seven years have roughly nine times the risk of kidney failure seen in people who take about two tablets a week, according to the report. Similar consumption of acetaminophen ap-proximately doubles the risk of kidney fail-

In contrast, frequent aspirin users seem to be at no increased risk, wrote the authors of a study appearing in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Overall, up to 10 percent of the new cases of kidney failure might be avoided annually with more-moderate use of the drugs. But the use of pain medicine is common and kidney failure is rare. Even if the level of

risk uncovered in the new study is accurate, kidney failure remains an extremely uncommon side effect of painkiller use. There are about 190,000 people with irreversible kidney failure in the United States.

with about 50,000 new cases a year. Overall, the prevalence is 732 cases per million people. Hypertension or diahetes cause more than half the cases. The kidneys help regulate the volume of

fluid in the blood, and are a crucial route for the exerction of waste products. As drugs in the bloodstream are filtered into the urine.

some can reach concentrations that damage or kill cells and, over time, destroy kidney function

The toxic effects of some painkillers - and in particular one called phenacetin, which was pulled from the market two decades ago - have been known for some time. The new study, done by epidemiologists at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene ond Public Health, is one of the few to estimate the magnitude of the risk in the general popu-

Telephone interviewers talked with 716 adults in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia who had recently developed "end-stage renal disease," the niedical term for kidney failure requiring dialysis. They asked about their use of acetaminophen, aspirin and the family of "nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs," or NSAID, of which ibuprofen, until earlier this year, was the only member available without prescription. A similar battery of questions was posed to 361 adults without known kidney disease.

People with cumulative lifetime ingestion of more than 5,000 acetaminophen pills had 2.4 times the risk of kidney failure found in people with intake of less than 1,000 pills nyer a lifetime. For similar NSAID intake, the risk was 8.8 times higher. Aspirin use was not associated with higher risk.

Acetaminophen became available without prescription in 1955. It is sold under the trade name Tylenol, but is available generically. Ibuprofen, sold as Motrin, Advil and other brands, as well as generically, became available over the counter in 1984. A second NSAID, naproxen, joined it last January.

# U.S. and Russia to Trade Nuclear Arms Secrets

By R. Jeffrey Smith

WASHINGTON - The United States and Russia have agreed in principle to give each other classified data next year on the size and composition of their nuclear arsenals.

The new spirit of openness in Moscow and Washington ex- data that Washington has pretends only to government chan-vinusly shared privately only nels, however.

None of the nuclear secrets is from learning how many nuclear members of its Parliament, a ar warheads they possess and senior U.S. defense official said. plan to keep.

Washington.

tired when the two historic nu- mantling facilities. clear adversaries fully put into Thomas B. Cochran, a nucle-Bush administrations.

weapons, but they would not made public,"

divulge where individual weapons are kept or say anything about weapons designs.

To accomplish the exchange. the administration persuaded Congress this year to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, so that Russia could, for the first time, receive classified nuclear

with close European allies. A similar revision of Russian to be made public, a circum-stance that has provoked criti-cause the Russian government cism from independent experts must first figure out how to that the two nations are still share its own secret nuclear trying to keep the rest of world data for the first time with key

Other U.S. officials said the A detailed U.S. proposal for aim of the information exthe private exchange of nuclear change was to help build confiweapons data was presented in dence in the two capitals that Moscow last week by Vice Pres- each military establishment was ident Al Gore after extensive carrying out its stated plans to interagency discussion in dismanile thousands of warheads and ensuring that the fis-Under the proposal, U.S. and sile materials withdrawn from Russian military officials would those arms did not fall into unexchange a detailed account of authorized hands. Washington how many warheads each na- also wants to lay the ground-tion has made since 1945, war- work for eventual routine inheads that have been retired so spections by each nation of the far, or are scheduled to be re- other's storage sites and dis-

effect the arms treaties they ar weapons expert at the Natureached during the Reagan and ral Resources Defense Council. an environmental advocacy The two nations also would group, said "the overall numsay where they are storing ex- bers of weapons and amounts cess fissile materials for nuclear of fissile material ought to be

to hide a lot of this data because strategic or long-range nuclear they are concerned that the weapons on reserve, in addition American public will be to the 3,500 weapons it is alalarmed at the number of nuclelowed to retain in an active arar weapons that will be retained senal of missiles, bombers and in a reserve category" for po-tential activation if U.S.-Russubmarines under existing arms treaties. Russia may want to sian relations should turn sour keep thousands more such

Mr. Cochran charged that that the U.S. military is plan-administration officials "want ning to keep as many as 3,500 activated now. 7,000 to 9,500 nuclear weapons

Secretary of Energy Hazel R. O'Leary proposed this year that the total number of U.S. and Russian warheads eventually be made public. But the senior defense official said Washington was not making the information public hecause "for now, what gain. weapons, the group states, Each we're interested in is to get in The council has estimated nation is estimated to have formation from the Russians. we're interested in is to get in-

# U.S. Gets Soviet Air-Defense Equipment

The Associated Press

ing to Pentagon officials.

The delivery had attracted attention because a Russian An-124, one of the world's largest planes, made the delivery.

The precise contents of the plane are still classified. But Pentagon officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the plane carried air-defense technology developed by the nnwdefunct Soviet Union.

"None of it is nuclear and none of it is lethal." said one defense official.

The United States purchased the equipment WASHINGTON - A Russian military trans- under contract as part of a continuing effort to port plane that delivered cargo to a U.S. base in Study in detail the capabilities of weapons systalabama earlier this week was carrying Soviet tems used by foreign governments. The identity anti-aircraft and anti-missile equipment, according to the seller is also classified but it was probably one of the farmer Soviet republics.

The air-defense system delivered Monday to the Redstone Arsenal, a U.S. Army base in Huntsville, Alabama, was sold by the Soviets to foreign countries and is still in use in several of

"We rnutinely acquire foreign equipment for evaluation," another U.S. defense official said. We study and aoalyze that equipment, determine capabilities and limitations, and then use that information to our benefit,"

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### **Qualified Victory for Owl**

WASHINGTON - A federal judge has approved the Clinton administration's much-disputed plan for logging in the Pacific Northwest forest that is home to the spotted owl and other imperiled species.

The policy, approved by Judge William Dwyer of the District Court in Seattle, would let the timber industry cut up to a billion feet of lumber each year in the ancient forests of Washington, Oregon and northern California - less than one-fifth of the harvest during the 1980s.

In deciding one of the most botly contested environmental issues in recent years, Judge Dwyer, who had first halted logging in 1991 to protect the spotted owl, turned aside objections to the administration's plan from both the timber industry and environmentalists.

Judge Dwyer's ruling was seen as a victory for the administration's twin policies for handling disputes over natural resources: to seek a balance between development and conservation and to defend its decisions on the basis of scientific judgments about the workings of ecosystems, rather than on individual species,

### **Gingrich Does Book Deal**

WASHINGTON - Two weeks before taking over as speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich has sewed up a two-book deal worth in excess of \$4 million. Nearly all of the money is for a nonfiction book that will articulate his political vision.

Mr. Gingrich's press spokesman, Tony Blankley, would not say what his boss intended to do with the advance. He implied an unspecified amount would go to charity. (WP)

### Glickman to Agriculture WASHINGTON - President

Clinton has settled on Dan Glickman, the Kansas Democratic congressman who lost a re-election hid, to be secretary of agriculture, replacing Mike

Espy, administration officials said. Mr. Glickman, 50, a nine-term congressman swept out of office in the Republican midterm wave, served on

the House Agriculture Committee and was a key figure in the writing of the 1990 farm hill, which expires this year. That legislation will be rewritten in the new Congress and that process, along with managing the cutbacks in the department begun by the Clinton administration, will be key tasks of the new secretary.

### Quote/Unquote

The Democratic campaign consultant James Carville, on the reported \$4 million book deal signed by Newt Gingrich, incoming speaker of the House: "This is the first guy who tried to cash in before he was sworn in. Are you sure he's not going to give it to some orphanage?"



Mexican federal police watching a hillside from which rebels had hurled objects at lawmen in Chiapas state.

# The Bishop in the Eye of Mexico's Storm

The Associated Press CASAS. Mexico - Bishop Samuel Ruiz kneels at an altar to the Virgin Mary, praying and fasting in a plea for peace in the southern state of Chiapas.

The 70-year-old hishop has heen accused by critics of fomenting the deadly Indian rebellion that nearly led to new clashes with the army and police earlier this week after Indians briefly occupied several

Indians in traditional garb.

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS barefoot through mountain junone thing, do another."

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS barefoot through mountain junone thing, do another."

Bishop Ruiz wants to force gles, run to him and kiss his hand. Still others sit throughout the day watching him.

The bishop, who is a diabetic, has not eaten since Monday as part of a hunger strike being joined by Mexicans across the

"We are here in solidarity with o people who are always on a hunger strike, an unwanted one," said Sister Lidia Solorio, 52, a nun who joined Bishop Ruiz's fast. "We don't under-

some of whom have walked stand the government. They say

the two sides, now in an armed face-off, back into negotiations. At least 145 people died in a 12day uprising by the Indians last

Bishop Ruiz had been the mediator between the govern-ment and the Zapatista Nationol Liberation Army rebels, but the talks broke down in Octo-

Although he has denounced the violent methods used by the

rebels. Bishop Ruiz agrees with their demands.

In Mexico City, eight people have started a fast at the Monument of Independence, along the capital's main thoroughfare. On Wednesday night, hundreds of people holding candles gathcred around the hunger strikers' tents at the foot of the monument commonly known as The

in the federal coogress, dozens of deputies and senators held a 24-hour fast Wednesday to show their support.

# **Away From Politics**

 Smoking will be restricted in nearly all public places in New York City, includiog a ban in most restaurants and offices and, for the first time, many outdoor locations, the City Council decided after months of debate and lobbying. (NYT)

 Reports of repetitive motion injuries in the workplace continue to rise at epidemic rates despite an overall decline in nonfatal injuries and illnesses, the Labor Department says. The number of repetitive motion cases reported last year was ave motion cases reported last year was 302,000, up from 281,000 the year before. In 1984, reported cases totaled only 34,700 nationwide.

 A timber wolf chewed off the right arm of a 2-year-old boy who wanted to "pet the dogs" at the zoo in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Two wolves were in a pen en-closed by a chain-link-fence and a wooden fence. The openings in the chain-link fence were large enough for a small child to get his arms through, but it is not clear

how the boy got that close. A Baltimore boy has been charged with first-degree marder in the killing of his best friend with a sawed-off shotgun the two 10-year-olds found in an alley near their homes. "It is our determination at this point that this was a willful act," a police spokesman said.

• A 3-year-old girl was ordered taken from the adoptive parents who had raised her since infancy after a judge in St. Petersburg, Florida, learned they were infected with the AIDS virus. Circuit Judge Horace Andrews said he did not know the couple was infected when he approved the adoption in March.

for his oversized ears and humiliated by snowmen built to mock him, a 14-yearold boy in Bismarck, North Dakota, won a restraining order under a law intended to belp hattered women.

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# Cease-Fire or Not, **Outlook for Bosnia Bleaker Than Ever**

By Roger Cohen New York Times Service

PALE, Bosnia-Herzegovina - Nenad Tadic, a Bosnian Serbian soldier, looked at the snow falling heavily on the mountains surrounding Sarajevo and said, "The weather would achieve a four-month cease-fire,

with or without the politicians." He was right. With snow falling and the weather bitterly cold, the fighting season is largely over in Bosnia. The

### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

cease-fire announced by Jimmy Carter is therefore relatively insignificant unless it can be developed into a real disengagement of forces.

Such a disengagement, buffered by United Nations forces. took place earlier this year in central Bosnia, where there had been brutal fighting between Muslims and Croats. But in that instance, under U.S. pressure, the rival armies and politicians decided to end, or at least bury, their differences.

That is far from the case in the war between the Muslimled Bosnian government forces and the Bosnian Serbs, based in Pale, outside Sarajevo. Announcing Mr. Carter's agreement, Sarajevo Radio said it was signed by the government "and the war criminals in Pale." Conciliation is not yet in the air.

At least not among the politicians of Bosnia. Among the populations on either side there is, however, an immense fatigue that would, if it could find political expression, open the door to peace at least a crack. But politics in the Balkans does not seem to work this way.

The war has destroyed us psychologically," said Milja Gluhovic, a Bosnian Serb in Pale who lost her husband and hrother last May to a single shell that landed in their trench in the mountains above Sarajevo. "Everyone wants peace, everyone," she said. "But the prospects are dim."

In Sarajevo, an accountant named Amra who declined to give her last name said: "It is very sad when, after two and a half years, you see there is noththese people. If I can ever get away, I will never come back."

Such weariness, disillusionment and disgust with political maneuvering are now rampant throughout Bosnia. But the grim scheming continues uning seems particularly outland- the effects of the winter.

ish because Bosnia is still a country to be invented.

Despite all the words on both sides, Bosnia- Herzegovina has no recent history as an independent state and Muslims, Croats and Serbs disagree totally as to what it is and what it should become. This was, and is still, the root of the conflict.

The Bosnian government of President Alija Izetbegovic, outraged by the Serbian campaign of terror against Muslims across much of Bosnia, wants to 'liberate" the country from the Bosnian Serbs and their leader. Radovan Karadzic.

If that remains the case, Mr. Izetbegovic will try to use an eventual four-month respite from fighting to continue re-arming and building an army that has made immense strides in the last two years.

Despite the Serhian onslaught on the western Muslim enclave of Bihac, the Bosnian Army continues to put the Serbs under pressure in other parts of the country. The Bosnian government has some reason to see a long-term military trend in its favor.

Mr. Karadzic, meanwhile, persists with a dark vision of an ethnically pure Serbian entity within Bosnia, including a sec-ond Sarajevo for the Serhs.

His recent promises on improving human rights and his statement that he has "nothing against Muslims, only a deep objection to Izetbegovic's fun-damentalists" cannot mask the fact that almost all Muslims in the territory held hy the Serbs have been driven out or killed

Both these political visions -Mr. Izetbegovie's of some sort of liberation and Mr. Karadzic's of a big slice of Bosnia for Serbs only - are probably im-

A Bosnian military victory would almost certainly take years; moreover, there would still be many Serbs left who would not want to live under a Muslim-led government. The toll of isolation that goes with Mr. Karadzic's ideas would ultimately prove crippling.

If the United States, Britain, ing left. I hate this place. I hate France, Germany and Russia the countries that make up the so-called Contact Group that has drawn up a peace plan for Bosnia - can convince both sides of the futility of this essential stalemate, there may be some chance of a real cessation abated, and the political postur- of hostilities that would outlast

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Grozny residents digging Thursday for possible survivors in the ruins of a house destroyed by Russian air raids.

# 2 Die in Sarajevo, but Truce Seems Near

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnia's Muslim-led government was close to an agreement Thursday on how to carry out a comprehensive cease-fire with Serbs. despite a mortar attack that killed two people in a Sarajevo market.

Vice President Ejup Ganic said after talks with the United Nations envoy, Yasushi Akashi, that "we hope the cease-fire will be starting more or less on schedule" at noon on Friday.

Mr. Akashi, who later went to Serbian

headquarters at Pale ontside Sarajevo, said the two sides were very close to agreeing on the text of a comprehensive cease-fire He acknowledged the groundwork of

former President Jimmy Carter, who nego-tiated the deadline with Muslim and Bosnian Serb leaders when he visited Sarajevo

The UN and the Bosnian government appeared determined not to be hlown off

KOREA:

Airspace to Open

Continued from Page 1

skies policy occurred less than a

week after a U.S. military heli-

copter that strayed into North

Korean airspace was either shot

down or made an emergency

landing, resulting in the death

North Korea said Thursday

that it was still questioning the

surviving pilot. Chief Warrant

Officer Bobby Hall, and

charged that he had been on a

spy mission, Reuters reported

from Geneva. But Han Chang

On, a senior diplomat to the

United Nations in Geneva, said

his country hoped to resolve the

problem of releasing the airman

on a "humanitarian basis." He

States of carrying out about 200

"espionage activities" against his country in November alone.

About the recent incident, he

said: "We warned the United

States several times about not

conducting such military espio-

son, Democrat of New Mexico,

hrought the remains of the dead

army helicopter pilot, Chief Warrant Officer David Hile-

horder hetween South and

Mr. Richardson arrived in

Pyongyang on a previously scheduled visit shortly before the helicopter went down on

There was some speculation that Pyongyang made the an-

nouncement about civil avia-

tion on Thursday to divert at-

and China, its main ally.

vice only to Beijing and Mos-cow and a handful of other

North Korea.

Saturday.

It was not clear that there was

Mr. Han accused the United

gave no date.

nage activities."

of one of the two pilots.

course by the attack on the market during the morning. Two men were killed instantly and seven other people were wounded, two of them seriously.

A UN spokesman, Michael Williams, cautiously suggested the Serbs were at fault, saying, "Initial reports on the incident in Sarajevo would appear to indicate that the mortar fire came from the Grbavica area of the city, which is basically in

Mr. Ganic said angrily: "Nothing has changed. This is just one more example of how Serbs talk peace and make war. The Bosnian Serb army denied responsi-

bility and accused the Muslims of attacking themselves to be able to hlame the Serbs for upsetting the cease-fire. The blast happened near the main open

market in Sarajevo where 68 people were killed by a mortar in February in the worst single atrocity of the 32-month war. The main obstacle to the cease-fire taking place is the Serbs' insistence that reluc-

ment installed without a new to have been only the beginning

election would be a "caricature of a far longer and more com-

of surrender," he said. "I am someone else who is in charge absolutely determined to hold does not really bother me," said

It is by no means clear, how-roni, who leads the dissident

ever, that Mr. Berlusconi could faction within the Northern

secure a majority, even though League.
many from the Northern "What is important is that

League, though apparently not the government includes the

the majority of them, have sided League and the Freedom Alli-with the prime minister's so-ance and is led by someone who

plex transition.

tant Muslim forces withdraw from Mount Igman, west of Sarajevo, where they are guarding the only free road to the capital that Muslims control.

The Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, said Thursday that he had ordered his men to cease fire on Friday, even if Muslim troops did not withdraw.

A further complication is that the Carter and UN proposals do not include Croatian Serbs and rebel Muslims who are fighting government forces in the Bihac enclave of northwest Bosnia. This is the only part of the country

where serious fighting is still taking place and there is no guarantee the cease-fire would stop it, The Bosnian Serbian leadership also called Thursday for the suspension of in-

ternational sanctions against themselves and rump Yugoslavia for the duration of

called Freedom Alliance, made knows how to govern," he said.

ITALY: Berlusconi Resigns His Post After 7 Months

knows how to govern," he said. drab olive green of Russian For his part, the Northern fighting vehicles and anti-air-League leader, Umberto Bossi, craft gurs. There is no bot waup initially of his Forza Italia, the neofascist National Alliance and the Northern League. who has made insurgency his

political stock-in-trade, and his said to be drinking heavily. At new allies insist that a transitional government be formed of the League, the Popular Party

All three of those parties fear SIJRWAY: Bombing Arrest

ter. Troops in some units are this frozen crossroads, there seemed to be little activity beyond the troops who were chipping ice from their armored and the Democratic Party of the Left to oversee institutional personnel carrier. and electoral reform before any

### the case. Perhaps most wearing on the

Continued from Page 1 is being transferred from the

troops, the military announced

ions, or about 800, of elite Rus-

confirmed reports that Moscow

was also sending the clite and more historically loyal Taman

division, which is based near

CHECHNYA: Heavier Bombing

General Eduard Vorobyov.

The Defense Ministry later denied the report, calling it denied the report, calling it.

The Chechen leaders ap-

bilizing the situation in the pealed for help to the United

But what gave the report add- curity and Cooperation in Eu-

ed weight was an earlier claim rope and the world community

from the chairman of Parlia-

ment's Defense Committee, to its North Caucasus neigh-

from General Grachev to take Movladi Udugov, also said that

command of the military opera- a bomb hit the Chechen Parlia-

Moscow's increasingly bla-tant efforts to subvert the Che-Russian legislator and human

chen president, Dzhokar Du-rights official, Sergei Kovalyov,

dayev, had all failed, prompting still in Grozny, said the Rus-

General Grachev to boast on sians had bombed "residential

Nov. 27: "It would be possible areas in the center of the city."

to resolve all questions within At least 12 people died over-

two hours with one parachute night.

The Russian government

Russian tank columns moved ing during the early hours of

into Chechnya in great Thursday morning and denied strength, with up to 40,000 soldiers and Interior Ministry Instead, officials blamed the

the deployment of two battal- themselves, accusing them of

sian marines to shore up the order to make it seem that Mos-

forward troops. There were un-

Moscow and attacked the Rused, while at least 14 paratroop-

sian Parliament in October ers had been killed and 36

TROOPS: Russian Morale Low

Chechen officials in Grozny fense Ministry.

zenry.

On Thursday, 12 days after press office denied any bomb-

Sergei Yushenkov, that General bors to come to Grozny's Vorobyov had asked to be retance with arms and aid.

Continued from Page 1

in the North Caucasus, Colonel

disinformation aimed at desta-

lieved after refusing a request

tion against Chechnya.

regiment.

North Caucasus."

said Thursday that the Russians

had begun "mass bombings of residential areas," dropping up

to 60 missiles and bombs and

The Chechen leaders ap-

Nations, the Conference on Se-

bors to come to Grozny's assis-

The Chechen spokesman,

ment building Thursday after-

destruction on Chechen leaders

"imitating" Russian bombs in

Russian officials said that so

far 20 Interior Ministry troops

had been killed and 30 wound-

wounded, according to the De-

front Friday, was barely able to contain his relief. "I don't know what they're doing," he said, pointing with his chin at his comrades in arms. "All I know is that I'm not going to Groz-

That sentiment was no surprise, given the living conditions for most of the Russian troops here.

Bed is a pile of hay under a crude lean-to. What little heat is available is afforded by a primitive wood-burning oven. Tobacco (and what Russian soldier doesn't smoke?) comes in rude-smelling little plugs in sog-gy packets called dymoks. Fifth-class cigarettes," one teenage private said with a

The only splotch of color on the icy rural landscape is the

"We like cavemen," said Alexander, barely overstating

nerves of the servicemen here, over the border from Chechnya, in Ingushetia, is the knowledge that even though they are on Russian soil, it is unmistakably hostile territory.

When the western column moved through the Ingush region on Dec. 11, it was met by angry people in the streets who blocked the troops' advance and set fire to more than 30 military vehicles.

Since then, the troops have settled uneasily into positions west of Grozny, generally stay-ing away from the towns and villages. Nearly all of the ground fighting has been left to Russian columns approaching Grozny from the north, whose progress in 10 days has been

During the day, the troops here buy bread and sundries from Ingush villagers, who generally sympathize with the Chechens. But when darkness falls there is the sound of shooting nearby. "At night, you don't know who anyone is," Alexan-

### election, particularly against a to have last worked for Merrill Berlusconi campaign machine Lynch, lived in Scotch Plains supported by the prime minis-

white man, around 200

pounds (90 kilograms), between 40 and 50, hurgundy sweater, dark blue three-quarter-length coat, hlue jeans torn below the knees, hurn marks.

The two officers looked at each other. "Wait a minute," Mr. Ruiz said. "That sounds

**BISTRO:** Venerable French Institution Is Endangered like the guy that we have." Less than an hour of the ex-

plosion, the police said, the man, Mr. Leary, was the target of the investigation not only of

similar incident last week. two cases, the police said, were people." similarities in the construction of the incendiary devices that called, the infighting over the started both suhway fires: each filled with gasoline or another flammable liquid. Both had two

Brooklyn A neighbor in Scotch Plains said it appeared that Mr. Leary had been unemployed for the last few months.

and had co-op apartments in

At the co-op huilding in Park Slope, Brooklyn, he had left dis-tinct impressions. He was once

president of the co-op board.
"Ed was weird," said David
Elrich, who served on the board

with him and now lives else-Wednesday's explosion hut of a where. "He's your classic commilar incident last week.

The main link between the chines, not so good with At one point, Mr. Elrich re-

question of spending money to consisted of a glass jar about decorate the co-op huilding the size of a mayonnaise jar, grew very emotional. One day, a mysterious fire erupted outside the apartment of the leader of wires leading from the liquid to the pro-spending faction, who opposed Mr. Leary's efforts to keep down maintenance costs. Mr. Leary, who was believed

### Television programs about Young Parisians, who see bistros as old-fashioned and exthe histro's decline have produced that uneasy sense that

like that from the nearby hutcher and the baker, who not only have begun to sell sandwiches hut also sell them at prices low-

Continued from Page 1

tion to a quick, new election.

"In the interests of the country.

it is necessary that the present

government remains until the

elections," Mr. Berlusconi said

He said any other govern-

"My resignation is not an act

Thursday.

of democracy."

any connection between the he-Many cafe owners agree that licopter incident and the civil high rents in Paris are making it aviation announcement, bevery hard for family-run bistros cause North Korea appears to to compete, especially since the big fast-food chains have now have made its decision on the civil aviation policy in early Depenetrated almost every neighborhood. On Thursday morning, Representative William B. Richard-

This summer, a "Macdo," as McDonald's hamburger places are known, opened even on the venerable Avenue Victor Hugo, that hastion of proper, bourmon, to Panmunjom, on the geois Paris.

To be sure, the bistro of old. with its checkered tablecloths, lace curtains and a waiter in a hig hlue apron, has been changing for some time.

**Envoys From Israel** And Syria Will Meet

tention from the helicopter DAMASCUS — Syria offiaffair. But analysts said it was cially announced that a meeting more likely that the announcebetween the Syrian and Israeli ment was timed to counter the ambassadors to the United start of direct air service Thurs-States would be held in Washday hetween South Korea, North Korea's main enemy, ington on Thursday. The official Syrian news North Korea now has air ser-

to 18 liters." Foreigners, who come to

agency, SANA, said Syrian and Israeli military officials also State Department.

pensive, have switched to glitzier places, forcing café owners to seek a sleek, high-tech look or turn themselves into wine bars or sell crepes or tapas.

The three groups struck an

alliance to win elections last

March that were seen at the

time as a watershed, but appear

"Whether it is Berlusconi or

Interior Minister Roberto Ma-

Many establishments have dropped the tobacco license from their "café-tahac" sign because selling cigarettes and stamps meant much work and

Elsewhere in France, bistros are not doing much better. According to the French

union of bistrotiers and cafe owners, in 1960, when France had 46 million inhahitants, there were 220,000 cafes. Today's 58 million inhabitants support fewer than 65,000 ca-

Jean Biron, who heads the union, said that above all, the nation's drinking habits have changed. "Forty years ago, the French drank 60 liters of pure alcohol per person per year," he said. "Today that has dropped

France at the rate of 60 million under President Carlos Salinas a year, account for most of the de Gortari. clientele in the famous old cafés of Paris and other cities. But the ca in liberalizing trade and fiidea of the cafe, a convivial nance and reassured investors place with lazy, sunny terraces in summer and a warm cigarette change rate. Before the devalnwould attend the talks at the haze in winter, still appears ation, foreigners owned \$50 hilclose to many a French heart. lion of Mexican shares. or

overcomes the French, that sense that in every mutation of life something of profound value has become lost. Mr. Biron is keeping his faith, he says, because the

they would do badly in an early

ter's three television networks.

But such is the unwieldy and

self-contradictory nature of

their alliance that many argue it

would soon collapse.

French will not stop talking altogether. They already talk less, he said. "They get in the car and don't talk. They go to the supermarket in silence. Then they watch television. The cafe will continue, because people need

# PESO: Markets on Edge as Mexican Currency Floats

a battery and a crude timer.

ties climbed as high as 30 per-cent. While such high rates would certainly have helped reduce Mexico's \$18 hillion trade deficit, they would have done so mainly by ensuring recession which would be death to the foreign investment that was a principal engine of Mexico's growth during the last six years

Mr. Salinas led Latin Ameriby stabilizing the peso's ex-

about one-quarter of the stock in Mexico, and the stock market

hotched devaluation," said managers scrambled to buy as Geoffrey Dennis of Bear, bargains the shares that many Stearns & Co. "You can't solve others were unloading. deficit problems overnight, and they had to defend a rate they couldn't hold anyway. Mean-while, they kicked the foreign investors in the teeth." With the float, he said, Mexi-

can officials were "acting more sensibly." They "bought more room for maneuver in domestic policy," he said, "and the currency has hit its bottom soon-

about 4.00 pesos the day before County," he added.

changed direction repeatedly in "It was a disastrously heavy trading as foreign fund

"Investors in emerging markets have already recognized that they have definitely swing open and are not going to close again," said Geoffrey Bell, a New York investment consultant and executive secretary of the Group of Thirty, a research group for bankers

What they now have to realize is that nobody can guaran-In late New York trading, the tee linear growth, whether in dollar rose to 4.65 pesos from Latin America or Orange

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# 3 Ministers Quit India's Cabinet to **End Crisis**

By John F. Burns New York Times Service
NEW DELHI — A crisis that threatened the political survival of Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao was defused Thursday when three cabinet ministers accused of involvement in billion-dollar corruption scandals resigned.

But Mr. Rao's hold on power remained shaky, and many in the governing Congress (1) Party predicted he might not last as India's leader until spring.

The resignations allowed Mr.

Rao to escape, at least temporarily, from what had become a burgeoning political scandal in itself: his reluctance to dismiss the ministers after they were linked by official inquiries to stock market and commodities scams that netted speculators

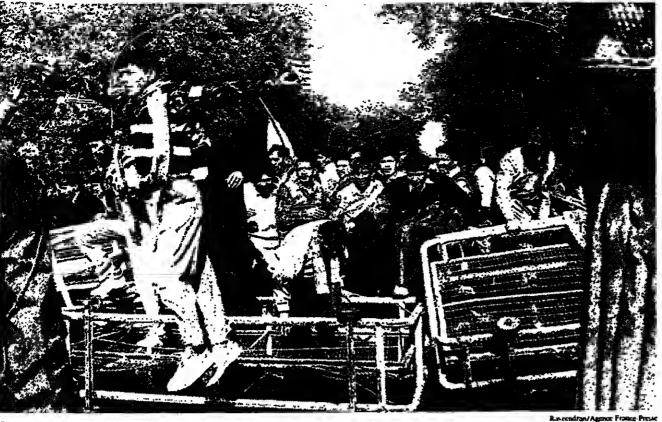
huge profits. Indian newspapers suggested that Mr. Rao held off dismissing the ministers for fear that they might drag his name, or those of other Rao family members, into the scandals.

By quitting, the cabinet members — Baburrao Shankaranand, the health minister; Kalonath Rai, the food minister, and Rameshwar Thakur, a junior development minister gave Mr. Rao an opportunity to respond to widespread calls that he name a new, "clean"

Leading newspapers, as well as opposition leaders, have parliamentary majority, and charged recently that the Rao were widely applauded abroad. government was at risk of becoming the most corrupt in India's 47-year history as an inde-

y -- "ret e 

ing irrest



Supporters of a campaign to carve out a new state in northern India breaking through barricades in New Delhi near Parliament on Thursday. The police used water cannon and arrested hundreds of demonstrators. They were demanding the creation of a separate state to be called Uttarakhand comprising eight hill districts in Uttar Pradesh state.

Such attacks have marked a bome state, Andhra Pradesh in neighboring Karnataka, many harp reversal in political for-southern India. Congress leaders concluded sharp reversal in political fortunes. In his first three years as prime minister, Mr. Rao, who is 73, surprised detractors by initiating an ambitious program of that began to break up socialist monopolies built up by Congress Party governments over four decades. His efforts at-

were widely applauded abroad. But the Congress Party endured crushing election defeats this month in three of India's 25 states, including Mr. Rao's

Party leaders voiced concern that the defeats were mainly that a similar shock might be in eaused by disillusionment store in five state elections that are sebeduled in February, two free-market economic reforms of them in large states that are among the few still governed by the Congress Party, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

At first, many Congress leadtracted defectors from other ers attributed the defeats to disparties, giving the government a affection among poorer voters over the economic reforms, saying they considered the reforms as favoring India's moneyed

But after studying exit polls taken in Andhra Pradesb and in

Two of the ministers Mr. Shankaranand and Mr. Thakur, had been named by official inquiries as major figures in the 1992 financial scandal, in which among voters with what they saw as widespread corruption \$1.5 billion in government secuin the states and in New Delhi. rities beld by Indian and for-Mr. Rao beaded off the chaleign banks were diverted into lenge to his leadership by winspeculation on the Bombay

ning crucial support from a

group of younger parliamentarians, who pledged to support

him as prime minister if he rid

his government of the three

ministers who had been linked

ministers who quit Thursday.

The third minister, Mr. Rai. was named in a government report as the key figure in delaying a million tons of sugar imby official reports to the two ports, allowing sugar ajor corruption scandals of companies to earn bundreds of the Rao years. It was these three millions of dollars in windfall

profits in the first half of 1994.

stock exchange.

# **Clinton Targets 9 Communities** For Aid to Ailing Economies

By Guy Gugliotta

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinion has designated the nation's first "empower-ment zones," making six urban and three rural communities eligible for millions of dollars in federal grants and 1ax breaks 10 stimulate economic activity in depressed areas.

The urban winners are Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago. Detroit. New York and Philadetphia-Camden. The rural winners, eligible for \$40 million and lax breaks, were the Kentucky Highlands, Mid-Delta in Misssippi, and the Rio Grande Valley in southern Texas.

Mr. Clinton's announcement was a benchmark in the prolonged debate over how best to revitalize the nation's cities, pitting the Republican approach emphasizing tax breaks for inner-city businesses against the Democrats' belief that any henefits for businesses should be tied to an overall program of community development.

The new program marked a victory for the Democratic view and an accompanying change in terminolgy, whereby what Republicans called "enterprise" zones become Democrat-"empowerment zones" and "enterprise communities." Under the Clinton plan, first developed during the 1993 budget debate, cities and rural areas will receive block grants to implement 10-year development plans. Urban zones may serve up to 200,000 people and rural

zones were limited to 30,000. In addition, zone businesses are eligible for tax credits for hiring residents of the area and for expanding their activities. Congress in 1993 earmarked \$2.5 billion for this purpose.

Although the plan was developed by a Democratic adminis-hle for \$100 million in social spend federal dollars, Mr. Clinion couched his announcement in the context of last week's "middle class bill of rights," and his helief that "we have got to rely on the energy and capacity of people to work at the community level."

Jack Kemp, the former secrelary of housing and urban development, and the leading Republican champion of enterprise zones, pronounced the current effort "a zero-sum approach" with "not enough zones" and with "no incentives

for new businesses." Mr. Kemp noted that tax incentives apply principally to businesses already within the boundaries of the zone, an approach he said would discourage new firms from moving into the area. He also noted that zone husinessmen would have an incentive to lay off outside residents in order to hire local people and receive the hiring

tax credit. 'They've taken what was essentially a wonderful idea to jump start inner city economies and turned it into a rather timid, pale version," Mr. Kemp said. "It's the very same trickledown idea of which they are so critical - it does nothing but larget more federal spending."

The announcement Wednesday came after a yearlong competition in which about 500 cities and rural areas submitted comprehensive revitalization plans to a Community Enterprise Board chaired by Vice President Al Gore,

tration, it tracks closely with the service grants spread over 10 views of Republicans in the in- years, as well as tax breaks for coming Congress holding that zone businesses. Los Angeles local communities should have more freedom in the way they

Supplemental Empowerment Zones, will receive \$125 million and \$90 million respectively from the Department of Housing and Urban Developmeni.

In addition, 99 other urhan and rural areas were named as enterprise communities." cligible for reduced benefits.

### ■ L.A. Mayor Snubs Clinton

Mayor Richard Riordan of Los Angeles, bitterly disappointed that the Clinton administration denied his city's bid to be designated an empowerment zone, snuhbed Mr. Clinton by refusing to take part in a conference call as the president told leaders of other U.S. cities how they had fared in the competition, the Los Angeles Times reported.

"I decided it would have been disingenuous on my part." Mr. Riordan said, "to make it look like I was happy about what had happened."

### Ex-East German Guard Is Freed in Shootings

POTSDAM, Germany — A former East German border guard walked free from court on Thursday after receiving an 18-month suspended sentence for shooting two people trying to flee to the West.

Prosecutors had sought a iwo-and-a-half-year sentence for the guard, identified only as

# New Spirit for Japan's Military **Job Options and Sense of Pride Bolster Ranks**

In Eternal Dispute on East Jerusalem,

**Israel Forbids Palestinian Conference** 

2 Held in Beirut Bombing

Security forces have arrested

YOKOSUKA, Japan - A new sense of pride the chance of a stable career in a tough job market are luring Japanese youths into the military in record numbers.

It is a far cry from just a decade ago, when seeking a job in the 240,000-member Self-Defense Forces, as Japan's armed services are called, was considered an act of desperation.

The defense forces, which are barred from military attack under Japan's pacifist constitution, were still so tarnished and roistrusted from World War II days that some officers shunned wearing their uniforms in public.

Joining the military was a so-called "3K" job - kurai, kitanai and kiken, or dark, dirty and

But now, recruiters are enjoying a windfall from intense media coverage of Japanese peace-keeping operations in Zaire, Cambodia, Mozambique and the Gulf. The military life has suddenly become sought-

regularly on the front pages of newspapers.

Japan's recession is also channeling high school and university graduates into the military

Latest official statistics show Japan's uncanployment at about 3 percent, which is small by many nations' standards but for Japan an unprecedented high figure.

JERUSALEM - Israel

barred a conference by the Pal-

estinian development agency

on Thursday and set up road-blocks around the Jerusalem

botel where it was to bave taken

Israel and the Palestinians

are locked in a dispute over the status of Jerusalem. Israel claims the city as its indivisible and eternal capital and rejects Palestinian aspirations to its

eastern balf.
The Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction, a body controlled by the Palestinian self-rule authority, had scheduled a conference on the role of nongovernmental organizations in

Palestinian development. The independent Jerusalem Media and Communication Center said Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin of Israel objected because Ahmed Korei, a

member of the Palestinian Au-

thority and a leading Palestine Liberation Organization figure,

was scheduled to speak at the

conference.
Witnesses said Israeli police set up roadblocks around the

Ambassador Hotel in East Jerusalem to make sure Palestinians

did not try to hold the confer-

ence against Israeli objections.
Samir Huleileh, a director at

the Palestinian development

agency, said the conference would be rescheduled. "We will

make some changes to the for-mat of the conference to respond to the Israelis." he said. He did not go into details. Palestinian Authority members, apart from the PLO lead-

er, Yasser Arafat, freely come to Jerusalem on private visits.
But Israel monitors Palestinian

as job opportunities dwindle in the private

Commander Asao Ikeda, head of the navy's YOKOSUKA, Japan — A new sense of pride Yokosuka Training School for petty officers, in Japan's peacekeeping activities abroad and said on a recent media tour that many recruiting stations around the country get as many as 10 times the quota needed for the armed forces.

This is a dramatic turnaround from a decade ago, when they had trouble filling the quota.

"Peacekeeping activities are a factor," he said. "but also many qualified youths want stable jobs that more and more they believe they can only find in the public sector."

Most of the 800 recruits who complete one of three four-month basic training courses a year at Ikeda's school are 18-year-old high school gradu ates, both men and women.

"We even got 19 college graduates this year and five of them were women," Mr. Ikeda said at the campus in Yokosuka, south of Tokyo, near Japan's biggest naval base jointly operated with the U.S. Navy.

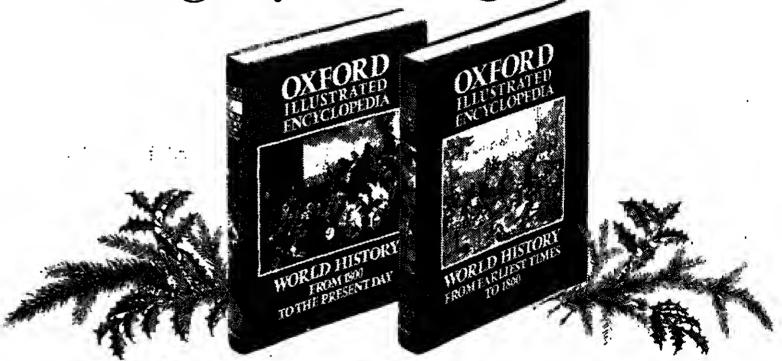
At the army's Youth Technical School, also at Yokosuka, a high-school level institution to train after with the activities of peacekeeping troops technical sergeants, students' eyes are on travel abroad.

"I saw these men on TV, in Cambodia," said Yosuke Kubota, 16. "I thought that was very

At the nearby National Defense Academy for officer cadets, also in Yokosuka, there were 80 times the number of applicants this year for the quota of 450 students.

The blast on Wednesday killed four people, including Fuad Moughniyeh, whose brother Imad has been widely

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# Saturday

activity closely and bars official blamed on Israel, Agence Palestinian representation in France-Presse reported.

two people suspected of carry-ing out a deadly bombing that mind behind Hezbollah's tak-

the pro-Iranian Hezbollah ing of Western hostages.

Art expert Souren Melikian covers both art and auctions throughout the world in this well-read weekly column. From major exhibitions to small galleries, from impressionism to ancient pottery, this feature brings new insight for the viewer and the collector in the popular and often lucrative art world.

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BRIDGE

**Italy Should Vote Again** Savior of Italy eight months ago, now just another failed prime minister: Silvio Berlusconi has not done much right in his brief spell in command. Yet his parting advice is at least half-correct, ftaly, he says, needs another election. So it does, although under more rigorous rules than Mr. Berlusconi would wish. Like other countries that have lately found themselves emerging from years of one-party

Berlusconi down, and the National Alli-

ance does not like the liberal, decentralized Italy the Northern League wants.

A deal between the Northern League and the ex-Communist Democratic Party

interests. In an Italy desperately needing clean-handed government, that would not do. But the other was the failure of March's election to produce a solid new

For four long years a recession rolled across the world. Now at last it is over.

The United States was the first to go into

it and the first, in the spring of 1991, to

begin to pull out of it, although slowly

and haltingly at the beginning. Then the

rest of the English-speaking world fol-

lowed — Britain, Canada, Australia and

New Zealand, In Europe the recovery

began only last year — again, weakly until recently. Finally, a solid recovery is

Each of the rich countries has its own

particular responsibilities to meet in

keeping this recovery going. The United

States' is to keep working on its budget

deficits and its inflation rate. Those fa-

miliar admonitions come this week from

the Organization for Economic Coopera-

tion and Development, which acts as a

sort of international council of economic

advisers for the industrial democracies.

In the United States, the economy's

growth rate probably peaked in the past year, with the Federal Reserve Board now

hard at work to slow it to a safer and more

sustainable speed. Meanwhile, for the next

couple of years growth rates in Europe and

especially Japan are likely to keep rising --

now under way in Japan.

Mr. Berlusconi never seriously tackled Italy's vast public debt; this month's budget, anyway feebler than it should have been, was ruined when, under the pressure of strikes and demonstrations, he put off the necessary cuts in Italy's overgenerous pension system. His budget failure meant that he could not restore confidence to ftaly's markets, which in turn meant that he could not make a start on his promise to create a million new jobs. The chief cause of this weakness by a supposedly strong man was the wobbliness of the three-legged coalition that

the election gave him. So back to the ballot box it should be, once a couple of things have been done to make a new election a better election. Mr. Berlusconi's present domination of Italian television needs close scrutiny. The constitutional court's recent ruling that nobody should own more than two television networks is a step in the right direction. And the next election should finally scrap proportional representation, which tends to produce a blurry Parliament of

too many parties. A referendum on that subject is due in March. Like Japan, and like the countries of the ex-Communist world, the Italy that so recently escaped from its corrupt old regime is still groping toward a coherent new system of government. Such a sys-tem is best based on two or three parties, all committed to democracy but each with its own clear identity and its own agenda to put to the voters. To construct a new system out of the rubble of the old one, like rebuilding a city struck by an earth-

quake, needs care and skill. In entrusting itself to Mr. Berlusconi, Italy showed neither. The work should now begin again.

**After a World Recession** 

with less strain. But the anguished debates over deficits and entitlements now go on throughout the industrial world. The economic success of all these

Americans do they can handle big deficits

rightly implies that no country really Whether the American economy is performing well or badly during the next presidential election campaign probably

# which among other things means expanding markets for American goods. The huge American trade deficit will keep rising next year, the OECD forecasts, but depends as much on decisions to be made in Tokyo, Frankfurt and London as on decisions in Washington. — THE WASHINGTON POST.

For Korean Détente A navigational error by a U.S. Army helicopter crew and an overreaction by North Korean defenders have threatened to undo months of arduous negotiations to defuse tensions. Now North Korea has taken a step to defuse the crisis by repatriating the remains of the dead American crewman. But it should have released the surviving American crewman as well. North Korea needs to return him by Christmas and provide a full accounting of

what happened to the helicopter and its crew. Once the pilot is returned. Washington and Pyongyang need to discuss ways to avoid similar incidents in the future. From the air, the demilitarized zone that separates North and South Korea is not well demarcated, especially under a blanket of snow. The hills beyond it bristle with artillery and anti-aircraft batteries. When the helicopter strayed off course, it was on an orientation flight to familiarize one pilot with the ins and outs of a self-imposed flight exclusion zone, a five-mile-wide ribbon that runs along the demilitarized zone. In their last radio

message, the crewmen reported that they were flying south of the no-fly zone; in fact they were north of it, and already inside North Korean airspace. It is not clear just how they were shot down, or whether they had attempted to land, the usual procedure when helicopter pilots realize they are lost. In any case, the incident must not be allowed to under-

dismantle its nuclear program in return

for Western aid and U.S. diplomatic ties.

accord. South Korea must be involved as well. The demilitarized zone is a good place to begin. Washington, Seoul and Pyongyang together can establish new rules governing airspace near the zone, as well as a hot line that provides preflight notification. Next, the two Koreas can thin out and move back their forces, which are

provocatively deployed far forward near

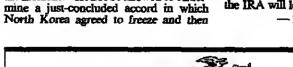
### Korea edge back from the hrink. - THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment

the IRA will let them have it.

**Next Year in Ulster** Has the IRA, the world's most tenacious, ruthless and professional terrorist group, accepted [compromise]? The over-

whelming majority of people yearn for a permanent peace. Sometime next year, as talks progress, they will find out whether



International Herald Tribune

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International Herald Tribune. 181 Avenue Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly-sur-Seine, France. Tel.:(1):46.57 93 00. Fax: Circ., 45.37.0651; Adv., 46.37,52.12 Internet: IHT@curokom.ie Edito for Asia Michael Richardson, 5 Camerbary Rd., Singapore (611, Tel. (65) 472-7768, Fax: (65) 274-2334
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Pris U.S.: Michael Grave, 850 Third Ase, New York, N.Y. 10022, Tel. (212) 752-3890, Fax: (212) 755-8785
U.K. Advertising Office: 63 Long Acre. Lundon WC2, Tel. (071) 836-4802, Fax: (071) 240-2254.
S.A. an capital de 1.20n 1804 Francisco B 732021126. Commission Parliaire No. 61337

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# In Much of Africa, Repaired Foundations to Build On

WASHINGTON — ft is almost two thousand years since Pliny wrote that "there is always something new out of Africa." Tragic images from Rwanda, Zaire, Sudan and other countries mired in civil strife make it seem almost as long since there has been any good news out of Africa. But the successful political transition in South Africa was truly good news that a decade ago seemed inconceivable. Back then only a handful of nations embraced democracy. Today

more than 30 countries have held elec-

All of this change translates into incentives for farmers and income for rural areas, as well as greater opportunities for private business. From farmers inside Africa to fund managers outside, people are responding to these new

tions, and most indicators of political

liberalization, like freedom of the press, have improved significantly. There is also something new out of Africa on the economic front. It is reflected in the fact that the fledgling stock markets of the continent have shown the

By Edward V. K. Jaycox The writer is the World Bank vice president

responsible for the Africa region. This growing confidence should not be overstated, but it is based on some very promising economic signals as the severe

distortions that characterized these coun-

tries in the early 1980s have eased. The most dramatic change occurred carlier this year when the 14 member countries of the CFA franc zone agreed to devalue their currencies, instantly eliminating a massive distortion. A growing number of countries now have convertible currencies. Black market premiums are now largely a thing of the past in many countries, and a number of governments are now in the previously unheard

of position of having to manage a surplus of incoming capital. Pricing distortions are being removed in country after country. Negative real inter-est rates, artificially low agricultural producer prices, import licensing systems and discretionary foreign exchange allocation regimes are systematically being reformed, along with inefficient public enterprises. As public expenditure programs have been cut back, unproductive projects have been weeded out and replaced by

investments offering the potential of high returns to African economies. All of this change translates into incentives for farmers and income for ru-

ral areas, as well as greater opportunities for private business. From farmers inside Africa to fund managers outside, people are responding to these new economic signals. The flotation of the Ashanti Goldfield shares in Ghana elicited a highly positive response from both domestic and nonresident investors. Latest data on private transfers to the continent indicate that at least \$2 billion has returned to African countries in each of the last two years, in contrast Merchandise exports increased by 4.4 percent per annum from 1988 to 1993 a modest amount by most standards, but reversing a steady decline through-

out the early 1980s. These gains are all the more noteworthy in that they occurred during a period of massive political transition within Africa, a global recession and deteriorating terms of trade for the continent. These were very adverse conditions in which to

embark on economic reforms. All the encouraging signs should not lead to complacency. Africa still faces tremendous challenges, and the lives of very large numbers of poor people remain blighted by years of economic distortions, misguided investments and inadequate services. In fact the economic improvements have brought the human and institutional needs of the continent

into sharp relief. Health indicators generally continue

to show steady improvement. In education, the bedrock of Africa's potential for prosperity, the picture is more mixed. In eight countries, wars and other disruptive factors have pre-

vented any significant improvement. Of the rest, 12 countries have nearly achieved universal primary education, and of the remaining 23 about half made significant progress in expanding primary enrollment rates during the past five years. This is a significant accomplishment in light of the rapid growth in the

school-age population and the economic constraints faced by governments. Economic growth is undermined by population growth, so the benefits are being spread thinly. Some countries have managed to bring the population explo-sion under control, but more widespread

declines in fertility must be achieved. At the same time, growth must accelerate and the ensuing benefits must be more equitably distributed if poverty in Africa is to decrease. Effective investments in the

social sectors must be complemented by

The dilemma of Chechnya's fu-

ture, however, is complicated by a second internationally recognized

principle that often runs counter

to national self-determination -

the sanctity of borders. Here Rus-

If Chechnya is allowed to se-cede unilaterally from Russia —

or Abkhazia from Georgia, Ka-

rabakh from Azerbaijan, Trans-

Dniester from Moldova or Cri-

mca from Ukraine - the way

will be open for other national

regions within the Russian Fed-

eration to declare independence.

A war of all against all will begin

over borders that are as artificial

. Is it impossible to find a com-

promise between national self-de-

termination and the sanctity of

borders, and to lay out a path

toward negotiation rather than

war? If the intensifying conflict in Chechnya is not quickly defused

it will create an intractable pro-

blem far more difficult to solve —

an escalating interethnic war on

Russia's southern frontier and the

as any in the world.

sia has the superior argument,

the creation of better managerial capacity, a greater acceptance of the private sector as the primary engine of growth,

and, above all, good governance. Pliny also wrote "when a building is about to fall down, all the mice desert it." The evidence of the last few years is that the foundations of the building that is

Africa are now much stronger. Africa's future is increasingly in Africa's hands. African leaders and economic managers now carry the burden of convincing investors and donors multilateral and bilateral — that they remain committed to reform and have taken ownership of good programs which reflect the real needs of their people. If they can build on recent developments, they will ensure not only that Africa is not deserted, but that it is a continent of opportunity.

Forward in Mozambique THE success that South Africa is having in building democracy is influ-

International Herald Tribune.

encing all of southern Africa. When the civil war factions in Mozambique got off the democracy track before the October elections there, a regional conference led by Zimbabwe and South Africa's first deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, told them to shape up — democracy or else. The region thus supported the people of Mozambique, who are fed

up with 16 years of civil war. In the end the elections were a success. President Joaquim Chissano's Frelimo movement won a confidence vote. ft remains to consolidate democracy, with a promised role assured for the Renamo opposition group. The men and women of Mozambique have their

future in their hands. - Robert H. Phinny, a former U.S. ambassador who observed the electoral.

process in Mozambique.

quire a means of enforcement,

and enforcement is possible only

when state authorities are recog-

nized as legitimate and anthorita-

tive, Dzhokar Dudayev, Chech-

nya's leader, was elected president in 1991 but in dubious

circumstances, and his govern-

ment is being challenged by rival

leaders who are only adding to

the instability. New elections are

imperative so that the rule of law

Russia must also work to earn

legitimacy as a state. Much of the problem with the Caucasian bor-

der stems from Russia's own

identity crisis. Is it to be a multi-

national, democratic state within

its current borders, or the heir to

the Soviet empire with claims on

Internally, Russia is too weak to fully control its army or even

collect all its tax revenue, much

less bring to heel dissident repub-

lics, and thus is compromised in

The age of empire, in which

one nationality exploited and

dominated another, is over. Che-

chens will not accept Moscow as

their ruler if the Kremlin does not

demonstrate its right to rule and

show in good faith that the small-

est peoples of the Russian Feder-

ation can expect to receive real

benefits from their association

By using the military against Chechnya, Mr. Yeltsin under-

mines his own democracy. Only

negotiation — endless talking and compromise — can keep the

fragile states of the post-Soviet

world from splintering.
The crisis in Chechnya is the

result of the failure, so far, of

the conflict along Russia's most

vulnerable frontier, for the fate

of democracy and political sta-

bility in Russia is not Moscow's

with the giant in the north.

its independent neighbors?

the eyes of its constituents.

can be established.

# Chechnya Crisis: A Democratic Russia Can't Play Imperial Games

the Chechnya conflict are absent.

Yet, although Chechens may see Russians as vicious imperial-

ists and Russians deem Chechens

criminals, these images are not

ANN ARBOR, Michigan — Hundreds of miles south of Moscow, 40,000 Russian troops While pundits despair that nahave surrounded Grozny, the tionalism based on primordial capital of the breakaway republic of Chechnya. One-ton bombs are falling on simple wooden houses and decaying Soviet-era buildings, and tens of thousands of refugees are fleeing the war zone. hatreds is part of the human condinon, eternal and unavoidable, students of history remind us bow modern, constructed and often

On Wednesday, as Russian troops tightened the siege of the city, evidently holding back from an all-ont assault, President Boris Yeltsin promised the Chechen people economic aid once the fighting ended. In using force against one of Russia's indigenous peoples for the first time since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Mr. Yeltsin has fundamentally changed the nature of relations among the na-tionalities of the Russian Federa-

state and the rule of law. For many Russians, the Chechen rebels are uncivilized bandits who use their tiny republic as a base for raiding their neighbors and

fought for centuries.

nized internationally as part of

PARIS — It took the Clinton administration but a mo-

ment to proclaim the armed Rus-

the only lens through which one side sees the other. Independent and culturally distinct as Chechens are, they bave lived for 150 years within the Russian and Soviet empires, have been educated in Russian schools and universines and have imbibed much of the culture and

mores of the Russian people.

Almost all Chechens speak their native Chechen language, but three-quarters can speak Russian as well. And Chechens have not taken their anger out on the hundreds of thousands of Russians who live in the Chechen republic. The conflict in Chechnya is fundamentally not about ethnicity or

been raised once again as if it explains everything, since the country is predominantly Muslim. ft is true that as Chechens develop their post-Soviet identity, open identification with Islam has become more common and the use of Islamic symbols more prevalent. Some of the rebel soldiers have

religion - although in some ac-

counts the specter of Islam ha

possible collapse of the fragile re-

lations between Russia's many ethnic groups.

Although no solution will be casy, negotiations in these conflicts must include maximum

concessions on each side. The Checkens — and the other nationalities — should agree to stay in Russia, while the Russians must recognize the right to defacto self-rule for the Checkens. sides are convinced to accept less

The war will end only if both than their maximum goals. An imposed victory will simply lead to simmering resentments that will boil over into new conflicts.

sealed as part of the campaign to isolate Chechnya. Whatever bappens, Mr. Yeltsin has weakened himself again and undermined his own assertion of shows that a new Russia is indeed alive in unsuspected places, if not faith in democracy. The United The precedent set by the Cbe-States does not help him by deny-

> friendly forces in Russia at a time when Moscow's leadership is playing up to nationalists with anti-Western gestures. Right, the West can't save the Russians from their own worst

C Flora Lewis. 1894: Dreyfus Sentenced

agents. The penalty of military degradation, said a staff officer

1919: Waiters on Strike? LONDON -Servility is no long-

the table are considering following the lead given them by nearly every other branch of human occu-

er one of the attributes of English

waiters, and the public is likely to be inconvenienced as the whitefronted, napkin-bearing knights of

economic signals.

largest gains in U.S. dollar terms of all the world's markets in 1994. Despite many problems, from lack of liquidity to the comparatively high risk involved, fund managers are starting to look seriously at the growth potential in Africa as they see a leveling off of the boom in emerging markets in other parts of the world.

By Ronald Grigor Suny

to the negative net transfers of the 1980s.

fragile nations are. At any one time most people are at peace with their neighbors, despite religious, cultural and lin-By using the military against Chechnya, Yeltsin undermines his

talking and compromise -con keep the fragile states of the post-Soviet world from splintering.

own democracy. Only

negotiation — endless

manipulation of fear and insecurity by opportunistic polincians. Peaceful resolution of conflict

tunity to express discontents, and

evenhanded mediation by state

authorities. Most of the require-

ments for a peaceful settlement of

ually at first, giving no more than lip service to Helsinki until Leo-

nid Brezhnev himself began to

make minor concessions. It took

then President Jimmy Carter to

push human rights successfully as

a serious foreign policy issue. And we thought President Bill

It isn't even "realpolitik," let alone "idealpolitik," to ignore

what is happening quite apart from the intricate issues that

Chechnya's attempt to secede

from the Russian Federation

Russia's democrats have pro-

tested bitterly against the warlike assault on civilians, and even

some notoriously nondemocratic

senior generals - including Gen-

Clinton had endorsed it.

provokes.

guistic differences. And although identity, ethnic or otherwise, is built on a sense of distinction from others, difference does not inevitably descend to murder. What leads to war is more often the failure of leaders, if not the

been waving flags bearing the crescent moon and star. But far more important is their mistrust of the Russian govern-ment, which they feel has misruled their homeland. In an era when self-determination and the belief in a democracy requires the opporthat ethnicity gives a people the

The West Should Not Indulge Moscow's Brutal Attack By Flora Lewis its mission is not to kill civilians.

yet dominant.

right to territory and statebood

dominate international relations.

the Chechen arguments make a

good deal of theoretical sense.

pendence is a menace to the co-herence of the Russian Federation. It is possible to understand Mos-cow's frustration and irritation, lest others in their stew of nationalities follow the example, without accepting Moscow's methods. Apparently, Mr. Yeltsin thought that the general disdain and dislike for the Muslim Chechens among Russians, who con-sider them crooks and thugs,

would make his aggressive deci-

sion popular. He has been trying

aiding a rebel force. nounced, by making him the na-tional symbol against intolerant Russian power. What would have happened if instead Moscow had

gression to czarist and Stalinist tactics aroused a fierce resistance that will last and perhaps spread to neighbors. It will not improve Moscow's ing its principles, and it weakens

impulses. But the least it can do is speak up with alarm and distress when they head for disasters.

PARIS - The trial of Captain Dreyfus was concluded yesterday [Dec. 22]. The prisoner, by unanimous verdict of the Court, is sentenced to imprisonment for life in some fortified place and to military degradation, for delivering documents of interest to the national defence to German

tion for life or even that of death.

where in concentration camps in

Meaningful negotiations redemocratic state-building in the Russian Federation. Washington needs to caution its friend in the Kremlin that Russia's war against its own citizens hardens the differences between ethnic Russians and non-Russians, who make up nearly one-third of its population. The White House cannot afford to be unconcerned about

> problem alone. The writer, professor of political science at the University of Chicago, is author of "The Revenge of the Past: Nationalism, Revolution and the Collapse of the Soviet Union." He contributed this com-ment to The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO pation by going on strike for high-

er wages and better conditions.

PARIS - Almost one half of

1944: Jews Destitute

80,000 Jews now in Paris are destitute and in desperate need of help. All of them lost virtually all of their belongings, even their clothes, when the Germans and Vichy French confiscated Jewish property. Their houses and apartments were taken away and for the most part they still have no-where to live. There is no news of 120,000 Jews who were deported to Germany or Poland. The worst fears are beld for their fate. Many thousands of Jewisb children have been saved. They were kept underground, scattered in small towns and given false identity papers. Many have parents some-

rule, de jure or de facto, Italy was never going to remake its politics by a single visit to the ballot box.

A post-Berlusconi glance at the present Parliament shows why. A new coalition of the right between the Northern League of Umberto Bossi, the man who brought Mr. ance of Gianfranco Fini? Hardly, because the ex-fascist, strong-Italy National Alli-

of the Left? Probably not, because the shopkeepers of northern Italy still mis-trust those ex-Communists. An alliance between Mr. Bossi, the demoralized followers of Mr. Berlusconi and the fragments of the old ruling parties that were blown apart in last March's election?

That does not look as if it would endure. A caretaker government of nonpoliti-cians, then? That just dodges the issue. The fact is that Mr. Berlusconi failed for two reasons. One was his reluctance to separate prime ministerial power from his continuing grip on his huge business

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE.

will then level off as foreign demand strengthens for American exports. As Americans struggle with their budget deficits, they quarrel over whether entitlements (Social Security and the other benefits) are too great a burden. The OECD observes that the United States is only in the middle of the range among the rich countries. Entitlements are much more generous in Western Europe, and one result is that budget deficits there tend to be even higher than in America. Deficits are financed out of savings, and because Europeans save much more than

countries and their governments depends heavily on what is going on elsewhere in the world. It is a system that puts a high premium on cooperation. The subject makes many politicians uneasy, since it controls its own economic destiny.

A major object of that accord is to put American relations with North Korea on a new footing. It is already having that effect. The two sides' reaction, mainly one of diplomatically nuanced words, might have been far more venomous and provocative had the agreement not been in place.
The two sides need to build on that

# the zone. Some good might come of this tragedy if the United States and North

- The Economist (London).

KATHARINE GRAHAM, ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER RICHARD McCLEAN. Publisher & Chief Executive JOHN VINOCUR, Executive Editor & Vice President • WALTER WELLS, News Editor • SAMUEL ABT, KATHERINE KNORR and CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Deputy Editors . CARL GEWIRTZ, Associate Editor ■ ROBERT J. DONAHUE. Editor of the Editorial Pages ■ JONATHAN GAGE, Business and Finance Editor • RENÉ BONDY. Deputy Publisher • JAMES McLEOD. Advertising Director

tion. Retreat now may be as difficult as returning to the pre-carious political balance between nationalities that has kept this huge state from splintering.
From Moscow, the conflict looks like a rebellion against the

exporting criminals to the centers of Russian civilization. As seen from Grozny, Russia is the hated colonial power against which the Chechens' forefathers And as seen from Washington, the conflict is one more ancient tribal struggle, but at least this time it is Russia's problem, not America's, for Chechnya is recog-

sian attack on Cbechnya just an "internal matter," none of America's business. This was a knee-jerk application of the poli-cy of supporting President Boris Yeltsin no matter what, and a mindless negation of America's stand on human rights. It is a flagrant exception to a reversal of? - decades of insistence by Washington that how other governments savage their own citizens is a proper subject for international concern. This was enshrined in the Helsinki final act of 1975 and

the Soviet Union, whose treaty commitments Russia assumed and vowed to fulfill. True, there is nothing practical the United States can do about the destruction of Grozny. But that doesn't mean it needs to pretend it doesn't notice and doesn't care. This is a significant new step in the turbulent development of

Russia, and it will have conse-

quences that may reach very far.

can support is for President Bo-

ris Yeltsin above all, regardless

The implication is that Ameri-

renewed in the Charter of Paris

of 1990, both formally signed by

of the threat his orders mean for a peaceful Russian democracy and for his people. Not all countries have accepted the Helsinki principle that national sovereignty is no excuse for violent repression. China doesn't, Burma doesn't, Iraq didn't, and the United States joined with allies to establish an aerial protection

But the Soviet Union did, grad-

eral Boris Gromov, who was the last Soviet commander in Afwhat is supposed to be the new

to the embarrassment of Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, who predicted that the offensive would succeed in a matter of hours. More important, the daring of the young general who refused to lead his tanks into Grozny, saying zone for Iraq's northern Kurds. that the Russian army does not

badly it was likely to go. There is no doubt that persistent Russian force can overwhelm the million and a half Chechens, and sympathetic neighbors for that matter, as it did several times in

about the reliability and readiness

of the troops have been confirmed.

Mr. Yeltin's closer advisers how the last two centuries. But doubts

ghanistan, and General Alexander Lebed, commanding the 14th Army in Moldova - expressed opposition. That is presumably because they foresaw better than

just waited for another election in the republic, offering induce-

ments for continued links? Nobody will know, because re-

relations with unhappy Georgia (forced to accept Russian troops

as "protectors" against a Moscow-inspired revolt two years ago) and Azerbaijan that their borders with Russia have been

shoot at its own people and that

chens' 1991 proclamation of inde-

to overthrow Chechnya's bombastic President Dzhokar Dudayev for some time - since the summer by covertly arming and That failed, but it did achieve a railying of the people to a lead-er whom they bad widely de-

yesterday, is more terrible for an officer than that of transporta-

Poland, which is perhaps worse than being orphans.

The state of the s

n Mozambique spend on higher education has appeal. But by increasing demand, it Mono The notion that equal opportunity can be guaranteed by sprinkling college degrees on everyone is going out with the welfare state. The second secon pushes up the exorbitant costs of

A CONTRACTOR OF STREET rial Games

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> shrugging neglect.
> In the booming 1980s, the by prosperity's gold chariot. Now, in this heyday of self-

> theirs, of course, but ours. The compound plight of peo-

> > BRIDGE trump split, and West held up his ace. South cashed the king

king. He finessed the spade jack successfully, cashed the spade ace, and reached the ending at National Championship for se-niors, and a playoff was won by Richard Hunt, John Sutherlin, Dan Morse, Zeke Jabbour, left below. Esberg knew that West was down to four trumps, so he led the club jack. West had to ruff Joan Remey, William Esberg, Howard Hertzberg, Robert Ry-der and Duncan Phillip. Esberg and lead a trump, permitting

South to make a contract that failed in the replay.

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busting "entitlements." President

Clinton proposes that all taxpayers

subsidize a large portion of what some taxpayers will spend on col-

Making tax-deductible what some

college and does nothing to encour-age students to work while studying. The only free-market way to encour-

age prestige colleges to cut costs and

become competitive is to reduce

Let's say the unsayable: Higher

subsidies and tamp down demand.

education is a privilege, not a right, best to be earned by high-school

scholarship merit and willingness to

work or borrow. The notion that

equal opportunity can be guaranteed

by sprinkling degrees on everyone is going out with the welfare state.

The second thing we don't need is the embrace of "class" as a way to

Here's the current state of class

warfare. To be a member of the

Lower Class is to be a helpless vic-

tim of an unfair system, or a lazy

bum. To be a member of the Middle

Class is to be a wonderful main-

streamer, justly resentful of being put upon by the leeches below and

top-hatted bloodsuckers above. To

be a member of the Upper Class is to

What kind of a warped outlook is

tronize the poor as pitiable Lowers,

be selfish and sinful.

categorize American society.

lege for their youngsters.

WASHINGTON—In the White House, the catchphrase must have seemed like a good idea: Marry FDR's "Economic Bill of Rights" with Bill Clinton and Productive as greedy Uppers? That applies political demography to outdated sociology. The divisive Marxist concept of class is social as ry FDR's "Economic Bill of Rights" with Bill Clinton's camwell as economic, and Americans should never accept its confines. Class is not determined by income paign promise of a middle-class tax cut" to dress up a necessary placation of the overtaxed as a "Middle-Class Bill of Rights." alone; richies can be low-class slobs But the first thing we don't need is a new assertion of economic "rights," long the hasis for hudgetand the genteel down-at-the-heels can be high-class povertarians. Only because the vast majority of

voters are near the nonpoor, nonrich median do pols lump these diverse individuals together in a deliciously average economic-social "class," to be flattered and cosseted. But the people with the most voting power are not a class of any kind.

The "middle-class tax cut," which is at the heart of this rhetorical demeaning of America's real Bill of Rights, is the newest way of saying "Let's keep on soaking the rich."

Since the poor, who pay little income tax anyway, are not much affected by Mr. Clinton's plan, the meaning of the M. C. T. C. is plain: Exclude those nasty richies from the relief we give the deserving middle. Republicans with their own M. C. T. C. labeling go along with the politics of populist resentment.

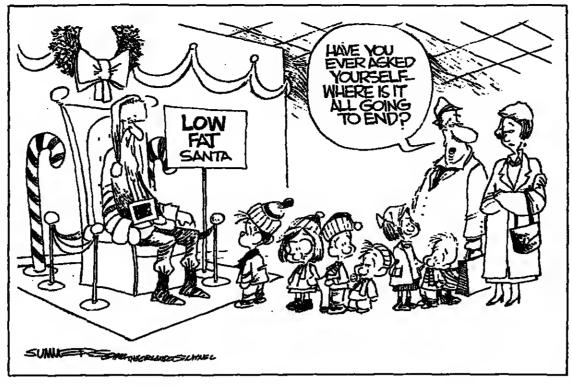
But the evokers of class warfare are out of step with the people they purport to speak for. Most of them see the problem with taxes not as "The rich are not paying their fair share," but "We're all paying too much, especially me."

People near the median would like to keep what they earn, make the savings work for them and thereby become "upper class." Such ambition is not to be apologized for; it used to be described as the American Dream. Central to the Clintonite exclusionary sell is that the richies stole everybody else blind in the '80s. But from 1982 to 1989, as Reaganites cut

tax rates, the income of those closest to the middle rose sharply. Another big lie is that the Republicans caused the deficit explosion. Throughout the '80s, the primary pressure to spend came from Tip O'Neill's Democrats. As tax rates fell, tax receipts rose, as supply-siders predicted, but the spending binge insufficiently resisted by Ronald Reagan - came from House Democrats who now pretend that the Republican Party was solely responsible

for quadrupling the deficit. In Mr. Clinton's coming Republi-can half-term, the healthiest and fairest tax relief will be across the board, flattening rates and closing loopholes for everyone - all-class, no-class economic policy.

The New York Times



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An Urgent Nuclear Issue

Party, Cleaning Up Isn't Optional" (Opinion, Dec. 14):

Jessica Mathews highlights some of the nuclear legacy of the Cold War—the rising stockpiles of fissile materials from dismantled warheads and all active reactors, the lack of dependable accounting and the paralyzing conundrum of nuclear waste disposition. But asserting that "the largest and most immediate nuclear threat comes from theft" discounts the inherently unsafe Russian-de-signed RBMK and VVER reactors now running in Eastern Europe, also a part of that legacy.

High-priority financial commitments from the Group of Seven, the European Investment Bank, the U.S. Import-Export Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to retrofit safety features on these reactors attest to the urgent need to doing something with them. most dangerous in the world.

Kozloduy's reactors lack an emergency core-cooling system, containpressure vessels and welds, subject to embrittlement, cannot be properly inspected. Kozloduy lacks ade-

quake-active area. Kozloduy, an accident waiting to happen, is a real Regarding "After the Nuclear and immediate nuclear threat. JOHN OTRANTO.

> Executive Director. Global Care. Munich.

A Necessary Grounding? Regarding "U.S. Curbs ATRs In blood hecause of lousy leadership.

Icy Weather" (Dec. 10):

ERLING GARATUN.

A French-Italian plane, the ATR, has been grounded by U.S. red tape for rather vague reasons. Of course, every time a Boeing crashes there is nothing to worry about. This shock-ing behavior calls into question the notion of basic free trade.

JEAN M. G. CHESNEAU. La Croix-Valmer, France.

### **Soldiers and Civilians**

In "Remembering the Bomb" (Letters, Dec. 7), Leslie Shenck objects to the argument that it was necessary to drop the atomic bomb It is significant that the International on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to save Atomic Energy Agency has designat-ed Bulgaria's Kozloduy plant the "I always thought soldiers were supposed to kill other soldiers."

There is no difference, with regard to the worth of human life. ment for primary pipe ruptures and between a soldier and a civilian. sufficient fire protection, while their And a nation must first and foremost do what is necessary to protect its own citizens.

Most Americans who served in quate storage for its 600 tons of World War II did so not by choice spent fuel - all this in an earth- but by obligation. If it were not for

aggression initiated by Japan, they would have remained civilians.

Whether it is right or not to put a mushroom cloud on a stamp, as the U.S. Postal Service proposed to do, I don't know. But it is wrong to suggest that war is only "between xoldiers." War always involves ordinary people, who are forced to shed ERLING GARATUN.

Bergamo, Italy.

The issue is not comparing the number of dead, nor is it the Japanese reaction to the war or to the U.S. postage stamp commemorating the hombings. The issue is whether we are to glorify the weapons of war. KIYOKO (WASAKI.

### 'Ahead of Her Time'

Regarding "A Gaffe Too Many: I.S. Health Chief Out" (Dec. 10): Dr. Joycelyn Elders, the U.S. suron-general, was very clear about her job but too far ahead of her time. teaching masturbation in school is, for the moment, too much to expect, it should at least be made abundantly clear to youngsters that

the practice is normal. It is a pity for America to have let Dr. Elders go, and a loss for American children.

E. FROWEIN. Uithoorn, Netherlands,

# The Anticipation of a Gift Retold in Basses and Altos

By Edwin M. Yoder Jr.

WASHINGTON — The Christmas tree had been trimmed and its lights set twinkling in the gathering darkness of the twili room. "Listen!" I said to my companion. "Just listen to the des-

MEANWHILE cant." From the stereo speakers

Lo! He comes with clouds descending Once for favoured sinners slain; Thousand thousand saints at-

sounded the grand chords of the grandest of Advent hymns:

Swell the triumph of his train! Most of our ways of celebrating Christmas, as T.S. Eliot wrote many years ago, are unsatisfactory. But for me, one reliably satisfactory way is to hear again the music we reserve exclusively for this season. And nothing rekindles the

spirit so well as the yearly Advent services recorded by the choristers of King's College, Cambridge. These great works of word and song are, in their way, a protest against the distortion of a season of renewal and meditation by frantic getting and spending. They also remind us, yearly, of the neglect of

Advent, the season of preparation. Advent in its origins reflects a fascinating constant of human psychology — that the anticipation of a gift, however great or modest, is often a greater part of the pleasure. And that must be doubly true of something so astonishing as the gift of redemption to a weary and errant world.

By now, listening to the choir, we can imagine the scene in King's great vaulted chapel. The last great affirmative strains of expectation boom out in basses and altos under the embroidering descant of boys' voices. Magic.

The words they sing, should we care to notice them, are literally apocalyptic. These voices are singing of the second coming of a messiah to earth, veiled in clouds, and surrounded by saints. Those words, taken other than poetically, would challenge the credulity of listeners now many centuries estranged from early Palestine - or even from the compact, earth-centered cosmos we recall from our reading of Dante and Milton.

In that earlier universe, as yet unextended by anything like the Hubble telescope, our small middle-aged star hangs majestically suspended in its central place, a little below heaven itself and serenaded by the music of the starry spheres. That comfortng scheme of things gave those who lived in it a sense of cosmic importance. In such a world, the reappearance of a cloud-girded messiah must have been easier to imagine than it would be in A. D. 1994.

Not that apocalyptic interests

are extinguished. Books like "The Late Great Planet Earth," with their timetables of catastrophe, are as minutely coordinated with biblical passages as the chronologies of Archbishop Ussher. They sell by the millions and are taken seriously by many. Every now and then you

read of devotees gathering on hill-tops to await doomsday.

For me, however, the more subdued apocalyptic imagery of "Lo! He comes with clouds descending." magnificently sung, is a more plausible — and certainly more pleas-ant — substitute. We earthlings have had to gear down our sense of cosmic centrality. Our adventurous cosmology has distanced us by hundreds of light-years from the Ptolemaic universe, demoting us to a minor position in a fifth-rate gal-

axy, one of thousands or millions.
Yet this demotion has not diminished our human longing for a prin-ciple of transcendence, a palpable connection between our small world and the music of the spheres. The smaller our little grain of sand on the great beach of time, the more necessary it is to find a reliable link to the unseen, the ultimate, the holy.

In his book "Real Presences George Steiner has labored heroically to put this universal longing into words and to explain why it is that music is so often found to be its mediating language. "Music," he says, "puts our being as men and women in touch with that which transcends the sayable, which outstrips the analyzable ... It continues to be the unwritten theology of those who lack or reject any formal creed.

... For many human beings, religion has been the music which they believe in." Yes, something like that; and it is no mean belief. Otherwise, why exclaim to my companion as the last notes of the great anthem die away to echoes: "Heavenly music!"

Washington Post Writers Group.

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# **BOOKS**

WHAT THEY'RE READING

By Michael Winerip. 451 pages. \$25. Pantheon Books. Reviewed by

Terence Monmaney

9 HIGHLAND ROAD

F ROM the opening of insance asylums a century and a half ago to the emptying of gar-gantuan mental institutions beginning in the 1960s, the care of people with mental disorders has been a recurring nightmare of false hopes, willful abuse and

failure to follow up on patients who had been blithely de institutionalized became manifest in the ragged multitudes of homeless psychotics left in the dust

actualization, the issue of the homeless mentally ill comes down to "quality of life" - not

ple who are poor and insane has languished atop the heap of intractable social issues for so long that Michael Winerip's "9 Highland Road" is a sweet sur-

By Alan Truscott

T WO strong teams tied in the 64-deal final of the first

Russ Arnold and Chuck Said.

The losers of the late-night

playoff were Hamish Bennett,

as South brought home four hearts on the diagramed deal from the semifinal stage.

A diamond was led and the

ace was held up for one round. South's remaining diamond

was ruffed, and a heart was led

to the king. This revealed the

**Ö** 87

WEST

NORTH

 David Brooke, the director of the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Massachusetts, is rereading "Portrait of Max" by S. N. Behrman, a series of interviews with Max Beerbohm at the end of his life.

"He comes over as a delightful character, an amusing dandy like some of the cartoons he (John Brunton, IHT)



The author, now the deputy metropolitan editor for regional house on a leafy Glen Cove news at The New York Times, spent two years observing the comings and goings at a government-financed group home for the mentally ill in suburban Long Island. In the past, crusading jour-

nalists who ventured into the mental-health-care system revealed it to be a disaster, a snake pit. Winerip produced something wonderfully different: an expose of progress. He was there from the start,

street into a supervised residence for a dozen mentally ill adults. Neighbors formed a school bus stop was nearby and tal, Winerip reports.

This apparent savi ous. The mayor said privately that he would back the home, then came out against it. The town hired a powerful law firm to block the project in court.

After a delay of nearly two grams.

cars, the residence at 9 High-He was there from the start, reporting on the fracas that arose when the health authorities first proposed converting a transfer of a social analysis of the start, years, the residence at 9 High-passioned expose will change thanks largely to state laws that protect such facilities and to the resistance of a social analysis. named Linda Slezak, the Winerip does not hide his ad-

miration for Slezak, who granted him full access to the home, and she is a convincing beroine, racing up and down Long Is-land to battle angry citizens, inert bureaucrats and roboand ace of clubs, collecting the queen, and led to the spade

> tail, down to the live-in counselors' meager \$16,640-a-year starting salary and the kilowatts the place used.
>
> Terence Monmaney, who has covered science for The New Yorker and is the writer of "Asy-

sure-footed enough to make it on their own. Counselors and social workers ran group meetings, doled out the residents' medications, helped organize their daytime activities and otherwise guided their tentative forays into the world.

When illnesses flared into crises, counselors usbered residents to hospitals and saved their beds at 9 Highland Road until the storms passed.

Winerip easily convinces us that a group home provides the "most humane" treatment for mentally ill people, but we still wonder how often it succeeds. Still, there's no doubt that the

group home is the best ap-proach and happily among the cheapest. It costs taxpayers "civic association" to oppose it. \$35,000 a year to care for some-A local chiropractor led the at-tack, hinting darkly that a with \$120,000 in a state hospi-

This apparent savings is no reason to cut government mental health budgets, only to transfer the vast sums long controlled by state mental institutions to community-based pro-

persistence of a social worker munity-based mental health care. It's one of those rare investigations that should prompt Congress to pound the gavel and get to the bottom of this incredible use of taxpayer mon-

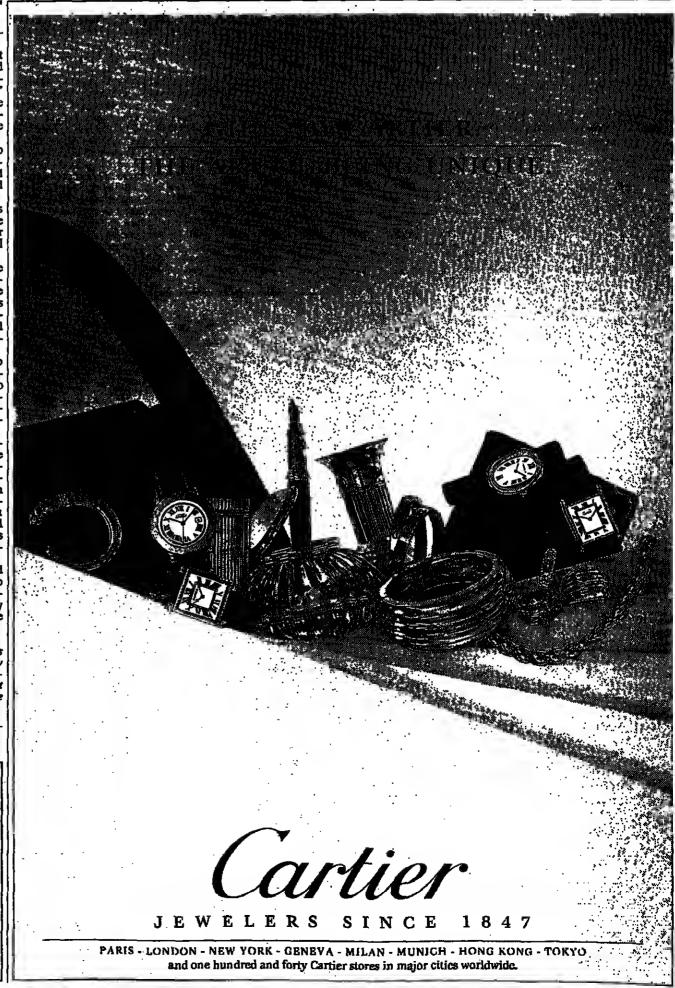
The workers at 9 Highland Road should be summoned to Washington and held accountable for their actions. Then they Winerip conveys the group should be given a ticker-tape home's workings in bracing deparade.

As a rule, the residents were hum," a documentary film about sufficiently competent to get caring for the mentally ill, wrote along outside a hospital but not this for The New York Times.

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# A Few Quiet Days In Busy Hong Kong

By Lenore Magida

ONG KONG — Hong Kong's culture may be one of the world's most ancient and venerated, but the British colony usually prefers to live very much in the present. These days, its no-nonsense dynamism and entrepreneurship are more intense than ever, as it reacts to the confluence of two fever-pitch forces.

On one hand, anxiety is high over Hong Kong's impending return to Chinese con-trol at midnight on June 30, 1997. On the other, the territory is thriving as the entry point for droves of international business people who want a piece of the booming Chinese mainland.

Characteristically, Hong Kong's 6 million people are responding to these dual pressures with great energy and a close eye on the bottom line. Construction is everywhere. Perfectly fine buildings are unhesitatingly tom down to make way for more profitable office towers. Stretches of the stunning harbor are being reclaimed to create land for still more building. And neither the din of a jackhammer nor a ride. on a subway can keep dealmakers off their cellular telephones.

In such an environment, it seems litting that the traditional New Year's greeting is, in Cantonese, "Kung Hei Fat Choy" — which means "Wishing You Success and Prosperity." Just as practical and unsentimental is the traditional New Year's gift to young people: lai see, crisp new bills and shiny coins in red envelopes embossed with gold characters.

And yet, the Lunar New Year, the most important festival in the Chinese calendar, also brings out aspects of Hong Kong that sometimes seem buried beneath its dense and lively commercial surface. Traditioo reigns, businesses close in favor of family gatherings, and the city is resplendent with decorations.

The coming year — the Year of the Pig — begins on Jan. 31. As is the case each year, the first three days of the new year will be public holidays. Those days are as quiet as it gets in Hong Kong, but the weeks before and afterward are especially festive. Indeed, because Hong Kong also zealously celebrates Christmas and the Jan. 1 New Year, December and January are full of festivities. And though winter in Hong Kong can be fairly chilly, it's generally more hospitable weather than the hot, humid summers.

(Note: As of Jan. 1, all Hong Kong telephone numbers will have eight digits. Except as noted, preface all numbers listed here with a 2 beginning on that date. The country code for Hong Kong is 852.)

The earliest traditional festival of the season is the Zigong Lantern Festival, through Jan. 2 at Sha Tin Central Park in the mainland New Territories. The festival will showcase more than 400 lanterns made by artists from Zigong, China's Lantern City. Admission is free: the park is accessible by the Mass Transit Railway, Hong Kong's subway.

A particularly colorful seasonal tradition is the lion dance, with its bright costumes and noisy performances intended to scare off evil spirits and bring good luck. Hong Kong's fourth annual Lion Dance Festival, from Jan. 8 to 22, will feature competitions among 20 troupes from Hong Kong and elsewhere. The opening ceremony and carnival Jan. 8 is 1 to 5 P. M. in Kowloon Park. The competitions, scheduled for Jan. 21 and 22, will be at Hong Kong Coliseum in Kowloon, with admission from about \$2.60 to \$5.20 (computed at a rate of 7.7 Hong Kong dollars to the U.S. dollar). For information, call the Hong Kong Tourist Association at 807-6177.

IGHLY recommended for those traveling with children in Hong Kong this winter (and a pleasant excursion even for those who aren't) is Ocean Park. The 215acre site on the south side of Hong Kong island is a combination theme park and oceanarium. It also features a long cablecar ride with spectacular views. For the first time, Ocean Park has planned special Lunar New Year programs. From Jan. 31 to Feb. 12, a Chinese God of Wealth will bless visitors and give them lai see packets filled with chocolate coins, and there will be a variety of entertainment — from jugglers to Peking Opera street shows, from clowns to a Dragon Dance Parade. Admission is about \$16.80; children 3 to

11, \$8.40. Information: 555-3554. Farther off the traditional path will be the Fringe Festival, Jan. 6 to 28, sponsored by the Fringe Club in Hong Kong. The dance, music and drama performances and various exhibitions will be in



keeping with the Fringe Club's mission of showcasing talents that are new or off-beat. Events will be at the Fringe Club, 2 Lower Albert Road, and at various other

places. Call the Fringe Club at 521-7251. Hong Kong's commercial buildings and hotels, particularly those along the harbor, spare no expense (and no electricity) in their holiday light displays. Huge designs — including Santas, bells and holly —

light up the town for weeks.

For particularly good views of the lights, stroll near the Star Ferry terminal on either side of the harbor. The ferry ride offers another vantage point. And in a town once famous for its bargains, this is one of the few that remains: about 20 cents for adults, 13 cents for children. Indeed, although Hong Kong has in

many respects become a very expensive city, it's still inexpensive — and generally casy — to see the place. Public buses and so-called mini-buses go almost anywhere; fares vary with the distance, but are usually under \$1. The Mass Transit Railway is efficient, clean and safe; fares range from about 45 cents to about \$1.30. For travel into the New Territories, the Kowloon-Canton Railway charges from 40 cents to \$1. The crowded upper deck of the tram on Hong Kong Island between Western Market and Shan Kei Wan offers a real sense of the heart of Hong Kong life and the fare is only about 15 cents.

Lenore Magida, a journalist who lives in Hong Kong, wrote this for The New York

his assignment. The object of

# The Cirque d'Hiver: A Big-Top Tradition

By Brad Spurgeon International Herald Tribune

ARIS - Before circuses became synonymous with tents, the first shows in the 18th century were usually held in buildings designed for them - theater-in-the-round, you might say. Indoor shows remained popular through the next century and many cities in Europe, and in Russia, still have circus buildings. None can top the gran-deur of the Cirque d'Hiver in Paris.

For nearly a week each January a tradi-tion is revived at the Cirque d'Hiver, when it hosts the international circus festival for young, up-and-coming performers — the combined Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain and Festival Mondial du Cirque de l'Avenir.

I went to the most recent show with my young son as much to discover the building — it was the setting for Edmond de Goncourt's novel "Les Frères Zemganno" — as to see the performances.

We arrived early for the Sunday mati-nee, and spent half an hour outside admir-ing the circular building, which looks simi-lar to a tent, but with a bronze statue of an amazon on the roof and two bronze waramazon on the root and two biolize warnors on horses over the entrance. Completed in eight months in 1852, by the
same man who redesigned the Place de la
Concorde, Jacques Hittorff, it was christened the Cirque Napoléon for Emperor
Napoléon III. It became the Cirque
d'Hiver, or Winter Circus, in 1870.

Its life as a circus was never simple. It was used periodically as a concert hall for classical music, and in 1908 was one of the first cinemas in France. It moved in and out of presenting circuses until it was taken over by the Boughione brothers, Alexandre, Joseph, Sampion and Firmin, 60 years ago. They used it for their circus and it became known to an international andience in the Burt Lancaster-Tony Curtis film "Trapeze" in 1956. Then, after many years of trying to preserve the in-door circus, the Bouglione family changed tactics in the early 1980s, and these days they rent out the hall for everything from fashion shows to pop concerts.

Now the true experience of the Cirque d'Hiver comes only during the circus festival. The organizer, Isabelle Mauclair, said that she and her busband, Dominique,

the young who are beginning their careers. to show that in France we have circus artists of quality."

"But the next year, every country in the world wanted to participate," she went on "And so it has become the big market for great circus careers."

The Cirque d'Hiver was chosen as the site because, as Mauclair put it, the building is "a treasure chest for these artists. Their acts take on a different dimension and they all want to come. And because it's in Paris."

When I entered the auditorium, with its red velvet chairs, I could immediately understand its attraction for a young circus artist: It is beautiful, and looks inside, as outside, like a circus tent. But none of the seats are obstructed by pillars: There are no pillars. The ceiling seems to reach up higher than any opera, and in the center of this universe that seats 1,650 spectators is the single circus ring. There is a band on a stage practically among the spectators. The French social register, the Bottin Mondain, says that of all the Paris the aters and operas, this room is "at once the most beautiful ... the most comfortable, the most agreeable, and the best ventilated."

From the opening of the show, I knew we had arrived at the best of the circus arts

My only worry was that the finesse of the acts might be too subtle for my son, not yet 3 years old. There were fewer children in the audience than in the tented shows we had seen. But he sat, as usual, hypnotized throughout the three-hour show, which included clowns from the Moscow Bolshoi Circus, Chinese glass balancers, Mongolian contortionists, Hungarian jugglers, and French and Canadian trapeze artists.

OR both of us the best act was the Russian Kurbanov Troupe's, which consisted of three children and three men in leather driving motorcycles. It was a modernization of an act created by the famous Risley family acrobats in the 19th century. They parked the motorcycles on their kickstands and the men lay on them and juggled the children with their feet.

It was a fairly representative act for the festival, which Mauclair says is appreciated by the artists because the organizers "have always tried to show the new things in the circus arts."

"The circus evolves like the theater," she said, "and we have always wanted to show, for example, how lots of artists now use opera music to create more profound emotions, or how sometimes celebrated directors take part in the creation of an act. Whenever we can move toward modernity we do, while at the same time maintaining the essential traditional technique."

Although I had had no trouble getting tickets only e few days before the show, the audience was filled with circus aficionados, show-biz and other personalities, and with many of the artists who had performed in the past.

"Those who have taken part in the festival travel the world and speak of it as their

val travel the world and speak of it as their festival, and they come back just to watch it," said Mauclair. "It has become a very, very big family."

Thinking about how I would have loved to have had the chance to perform there as a teenager, when I worked in a circus, I could only envy them. And when my son informed me after the show that he wanted to do that too. I realized it was indeed a ed to do that too, I realized it was indeed a family affair.

The festival runs from Jan. 12 to 16. Reservations: 44.61.06.02.

**Dumb and Dumber** Directed by Peter Farrelly.

If critical traditions count for anything, Jim Carrey can look forward one day to being discovered by French filmgoers and canonized as the new Jerry Lewis. There are moments all through his newest movie, "Dumb and Dumber," when the rubber-faced actor with a chipped front tooth, his hair in bangs and his cough-drop eyes ablaze with maniacal mischief, is almost a dead ringer for Lewis on one of his hyperactive jags. Carrey's ver-sion of Lewis, it should be noted, adds befty dashes of

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in the movie involves a powerful laxative and a broken toilet. "Dumb and Dumber" fully lives up to its name, right down to an opening credit sequence rife with intentional misspellings and grammatical errors. Paired with Jeff Daniels, whose hangdog goofiness makes a perfect foil for his spasmodi-cally edgy comie style. Carrey plays Beavis to Daniels's Butt-head as they go on a wild cross-country road trip. Carrey is Lloyd, the world's chumsiest limousine driver. and Daniels is Harry, Lloyd's dog-grooming roommate who travels around in a "Mutts Cutts" truck, a van transformed into a giant sheep dog complete with tongue and wagging tail.
"Dumb and Dumber" is a

old's style. The funniest scene

ter than to try to make sense. It is essentially a strung-to-gether series of gags. (Stephen Holden, NYT)

Dias Contados Directed by Imanol Uribe.

The Basque separatist group ETA has killed about 750 people and wounded 3,000 in its quarter-century fight for an independent Basque homeland in northern Spain. Imanol Uribe is of Basque lineage and his latest film tells the story of an ETA assassin whose mission is to blow up a Madrid police station with a car bomb. The provocative movie makes no apologies for ETA's deadly violence. But it shows that at least one ETA activist, Antonio (Carmelo Gómez) is capable of falling in love, which causes major problems for

his desire is Charo, a heroin addict, played by 19-year-old Ruth Gabriel, making ber screen debut with much no-dity. Their disjointed affair is credible and well acted. Its development does not engender affection for the ETA killer, but perhaps a recognition of his human dimension, which nonetheless is often subordinated to his fierce cruelty in the name of the cause. Nor do the rest of the drug-world characters from petty dealers to vicesquad cops -- offer great role models. The film is shot effectively and grimly, and its tone at times resembles Picasso's blue period. The terrorist actions depicted are not pure fabrication. ETA in years past has struck essen-tially in the same manner. (Al Goodman, IHT)



Carrey and Daniels in "Dumb and Dumber."

### GUIDE THE ARTS

# **AUSTRALIA**

Sydney
The Australian Opera, tel: (2) 3191088. Janacek's "Katya Kabanova."
Directed by Neil Armfield, conducted
by Sir Charles Mackerras, with Eliene
Hannan and Christopher Doig. Jan.
12, 17, 20 and 23.

movie that knows much bet-

BRITAIN

London The Whitechapel, tel: (71) 522-7888, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "Worlds in a Box." Surveys the cunous history of art in boxes from the 1920s to the present day. Features 130 works by 70 artists, including Marcel Duchamp, Man Ray, Class Oldenburg and Yoko Ono.

Manchester
Whitworth Art Gallery, tel: (61)
273-4865, closed Sundays. To Feb.
4: "Anthony Caro: Table Sculptures." The show spans nearly 30 years of the antists work, ranging from early sculptures and abstract painted steel constructions.

FRANCE

Centre National de le Photogra-phia, lei: (1) 53-76-12-31, closed Tuesdays. To Feb. 27: "Bitl Brandt: 50 Ans de Photographie." A retro-spective of the works of the British photographer, includes photographs of London during World War II, por-traits and nudes, as well as Surrealist

Jeu de Paume, tel: (1) 47-03-12-50, closed Mondays. To Jan. 29: "Charles Simonds." More than 40 sculptures, installations, films and photographs created since 1970 by the American artist, including some clay works created for a nomadic, mythical group of "little people" in the '70s.

Musée de l'Art et du Costume, Pa-lais Galfiera, tel: (1) 47-20-65-23, closed Mondays. Continuing/To March 12: "Histoire du Jeans de 1750 à nos Jours." Documents the development of denim and jeans, from the American workers' and armers' overalls to present-day teenagers' uniform.
Musée-Galerie de la Seita, tel: (1)
45-56-60-18, closed Sundays. To
Feb. 25: "Pascin, 1885-1930." More

than 100 paintings and drawings by





Self-portrait and other portraits by Degas, in Zurich.

one of the leaders of the Ecole de Montparasse in the 1920s.

Musée du Louvre, Pavillon de Flore, tel: (1) 40-20-51-51, closed Tuesdays. To Feb. 13: "Fra Bartolommeo et son Ateiler." 100 drawings and a few paintings document the evolution of the Florentine painter production at the time of Berball and production at the time of Raphael and Musée Rodin, tel: (1) 44-18-61-10, closed Mondays. Continuing/To

Jan. 8: "Dessins de Zadkune." GERMANY

Brücke-Museum, tel: (30) 832-20-29, closed Tuesdays. To Feb. 26: "Erich Heckel: 82 Neuerwerbungen Zeichnungen und Aquarelle." Drawings and watercolors by the German Expressionist artist who was one of founders of Die Brücke. tounders of Die Brocke. Deutsche Oper, tel: (30) 34 38-1. Verdi's "Atda." Directed by Gotz Friedrich, conducted by Stelan Soltesz with Withelmenia Fernandez/Ju-lia Varady, Ute Walther and Kristjan Johansson. Jan. 3 and 7.

Martin-Gropius-Bau, tel: (30) 25486-738, closed Mondays. Con-tinuing/To Feb. 5: "Der Riss Im Raum." Paintings, sculptures, instal-lations and video presentations by 49 German, Polish, Czech and Slovak artists from 1945 to the present day. artists from 1945 to the present day.
Neue Nationalgalerie, tel; (30) 26826-53, closed Mondays. To April 17:
"George Grosz: Berlin-New York." A
retrospective of 50 palmtings and 250
works on paper. Grosz was a founding member of the Dada group in
Berlin in the 1920s. His works depict life in his native Berlin and in his adopted second home. New York. The exhibition will travel to Dossel-

IRELAND

Dublin Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, 1el: (1) 872-2182, closed . To Jan. 22: "Henri Hayden, 1883-1970." The works of the French painter, who started as a Cubst after meeting with Gris and Delauray, then turned to painting from nature in the 1920s. After World War II, Hayden's styla evolved toward a combination of Cubist and Realist

ISRAEL

Jerusalem The Israel Museum, tel: (2) 708-811, open daily. Continuing/To Jan. 9: "The Jacob Pins Collection of Japanese Art." More than 170 Japa-Japanese Art." More Inan 170 Japa-nese works from the collection of Jerusalem artist Jacob Pins. Includes prints by Utamaro, Hiroshige and Ho-kusai, Zen and landscape paintings, and Chinese and Japanese sculp-tures.

Tel Aviv Tel Aviv Museum of Art, lel: (3) 696-1297, open daily. To March 16: "Keth Haring." A retrospective of the works of the American graffitist. Haring came to tame in the late 1970s with his drawings on the New York subways. His pictorial language interests are reserved. cludes recurrent images such as fly-ing saucers, barking dogs and radiat-ing bebies which mingle with universal symbols and high-tech ob-jects. He died of AIDS at age 31.

ITALY

Testro Comunate, tel: (532) 20-26-75. "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," directed by Stefano Vizioli, conducted by Claudio Abbado with Roberto Fron-tali, Cecilia Gasdia/Sonia Ganassi, Rainer Trost, Enzo Dara, Ruggero Raimondi/Ildebrando d'Arcangelo, Jan. 10, 12, 14.

Teatro alia Scala, tel: (2) 80-91-60. Puccini's "La Fanciulla del West." Directed by Jonathan Miller, conducted by Giuseppe Sinopoli, with Alain Fondary, Mary Jane Johnson and Sergio Bertocchi, Jan. 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22 and 24.

JAPAN

Art Tower Mito, Iel. (292) 27-8111, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "Roly-wholyover a Circus: John Cage." A complex intermedia event by contions of Cage's graphic works, drewings and music scores and more than 200 works by 50 activities. 200 works by 50 artists, including Marcel Duchamp

LUXEMBOURG

Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art, tel: 47-93-30-214, closed Mondays. To Jan. 15: "J. Kutter." A retrospectiva of the works of the Luxembourg Expressionist painter, Joseph Kutter, who was strongly influenced by Cezanna.

**HETHERLANDS** 

Amsterdam
Rijksmuseum, tel: (20) 6-79-81-46, closed Mondays. To Feb. 26: "The Art of Devotion, 1300-1500." Features 50 late-medieval objects of private devotion, such as paintings, miniatures, prints and wood carvings. Among the artists represented, are Mantegna and Memiling.
Rotterdam
Kunsthal Rotterdam, tel: (10) 44-

Rotterdam
Kunsthal Rotterdam, tel: (10) 4400-301, open daily. To .lan. 22:
"Faces of the Golden Age: The Dutch
Portrait in the 17th Century." More
than 70 portraits by 17th-century artists, including Rembrandt, Frans Hafs
and Adriaen van der Wertf.

Fundació Joan Miró, tel: (93) 329-19-08, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "Miro on Stage." Drawings, stage maquettes, photographs and paintings relating to the ballets and plays in which Miro was involved. Madrid

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Soffa, tel: (91) 467-5062, closed Tuesdays, To Feb. 27: "Cocido y Crudo." Recent paintings, sculptures, videos, installations and performances by 50 artists from 25 countries.

SWITZERLAND

Museum für Völkerkunde, tel: (61) 265-5500, closed Mondays. To Jan-uary 1996: "Wie Sie Sich Betten."

Zurich Kunsthaus, tel: (1) 251-6765, closed Mondays. To March 5: "De-gas: Portraitiste." Portraits by the

French painter and sculptor. UNITED STATES

Museum of Fine Arts, tel: (713) 639-7300, closed Mondays. To March 26: "American Painters in the Age of Impressionism." 19th-century American painting including works by Winslow Horner, Mary Cassatt, John Singer Sargent, Childe Hassam and others.

and others.

New York
Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel:
(212) 570-3791, closed Mondays.
To March 19: "Orientalism: Visions of
the East in Western Dress." Addresses Western fashlon's lescination and
assimilation of the ideas and styles of
Eastern dress. Features 80 costumes
and accessories, from 16th-century
clothes 10 modern designers' creations.

Westlanders

Washington National Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 737-4215, open daily. To March 19: "Italian Renaissance Architecture," Documents the design process behind St. Peter's in Rome, the Duomo in Florence and the cathedral in Pavia, with models of these buildings as well as 74 works of art by Michelan-gelo, Sangalio, Buontalenti and their 16th-century contemporaries. The exhibition will travel to Paris, Berlin

Some museums may be closed on holidays. Check before going.

*(105/16* 

and London.

uary 1996: "Wie Sie Sich Betten."
Focuses on our sleeping habits through reconstructed bedrooms, and other miscellaneous objects, dating back to the 18th century.

Geneva

Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, tel: (22)
311-43-40, closed Mondays. To May 7: "Icones: Donation Mavromichalis." Icons from Crete, the Ionian Islands and Venice, dating from the 18th centuries.

On Dec. 31: "From Cezanne to Matisse: Great French Paintings from the Sames Foundation." Art Gallery of Ontario, Toundation." Art Gallery of Ontario, Toundation." Art Gallery of Jan. 9: "Gustave Caillebotte, 1848-01.

On Dec. 31: "From Cezanne to Matisse: Great French Paintings from the Sames Foundation." Art Gallery of Ontario, Toundation." Art Gallery of Jan. 9: "Gustave Caillebotte, 1848-01.

Tane Gallery, London, On Jan. 10: "Cy Twombly: A Retro-New York."

International Herald Tribune Friday, December 23, 1994

# Don't Lose Expiring Flier Miles

By Roger Collis

OU have (just about) developed a strategy for acquiring frequent-flier miles—the right mix of programs, which airlines you fly, how you pay, which phone card you use, which rental car you drive. Congraturities of the programs of the prog lations. What you need now is a strategy for spending your miles before they ex-

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Use them or lose them is the message for frequent fliers in 1995 as airlines bring in stiff new rules that make it harder to earn miles by raising award levels along with stricter time limits for redeeming mileage points. There's no expiry date (so far) for mileage earned on USAir, Continental and TWA. Delta Air Lines' new Skymiles (effective May 1, 1995) will ex-

pire three years after your last Delta flight. Dec. 31 is the deadline with many airlines for cashing in miles earned over the past three years. On Alaska Airlines, America West, American, Delta, Northwest and United, miles earned before 1992 will expire at the end of 1994. Many major FFPs will make changes during the first six months of 1995. Airlines such as American. United and USAir have raised the award level for domestic U.S. round-trip coach tighted from 20 000 to 25 000 miles. Alaska tickets from 20,000 to 25,000 miles; Alaska will require 20,000 miles instead of 15,000. United, Northwest, Continental and America West are raising award levels for inter-national travel by up to 20,000 miles. Some airlines have dropped the minimum mile-age per trip for which they will credit you from 1,000 miles to 750 or 500. Watch out for more blackout dates when award travel is not allowed, and more seat limitations on certain flights.

Upgrades will be harder to get, even for some "elite-level" fliers. For example, USAir's elite-level fliers can currently get a ooe-way upgrade for 10,000 miles no matter how long the flight: From Jan. 1, they will have to use 10,000 miles for every 800 miles they fly — which can double the oumber of bonus miles they need. Continental no longer allows its top One-Pass members a free upgrade when they fly on restricted fares.

Asian and European airlines are less generous with upgrades (except for elitelevel fliers) and expire mileage credits typically after two years — although not oecessarily in sync with their U.S. partoers. With Japan Airlines, for example, mileage earned during 1993 and 1994 must be used by Dec. 31, 1995. From January, JAL's FFP members can earn and redeem mileage oo American Air-lines' Addustation according to the second secon lines' AAdvantage program and vice versa
— so travelers facing mileage deadlines could switch from one program to the other. British Airways' Air Miles expire after five years.

Airlines are raising the hurdles because

of the meteoric rise in FFP membership, with more than 120 million people signed up worldwide, and the contingent liebility if everyone cashed in the contingent liebility if everyone cashed in their miles at the same time. Pundits reckon that there are enough unredeemed frequent-flier miles floating around the system to fill 600,000 747s.

"Nine percent of passengers on American Airlines flights are traveling on free tickets in all classes — which is about the limit for serious concern," says Tony Clarke, managing director of International Customer Loyalty Programmes in Lon-don, "This is why U. S. carriers are reduc-

### The Frequent Traveler

ing the value of the miles, making redemption more difficult and imposing stricter time limits. They don't want to keep that liability on their books."

Most airlines give extra perks and privileges -- such as access to a lounge (whichever class you fly), priority wait-listing, special reservation phone numbers, bonus miles and sometimes free upgrades — to travelers who reach elite status. Typically, you'll need et least 30,000 actual miles to reach the first level. Programs worth going for are Silver memberships of BA Executive Club (25,000 credit miles) which gives you the run of lounges worldwide; North-west WorldPerks Gold (60,000 credit miles) gives unlimited confirmed upgrades on any fare; United Mileage Plus (100,000 actual miles) offers upgrades, bonuses and a special lounge: JAL Global Club (60,000 miles or 80 flights) brings coupons for free nights at Nikko Hotels, standby upgrade certificates, and use of lounges; and Cathay's Marco Polo Club (40,000 kilometers in six months) which provides upgrades, lounges and hotel discounts. Delta Gold Medallion members (60,000 credit

miles) earn double miles for every flight. One way to salvage miles that are about to expire is to redeem them even if you aren't planning an immediate trip. This is

# HEAR THIS

■ A better mouse rap for sure: Specialized Bicycle Components, a California company, is working on making a bike with a motor. Matthew Wald of The New York Times tells us. Whenever the going gets too rough (or steep), the battery-powered electric motor gives you u little extra energy, if you let the motor do all the pedaling, however, the battery only lasts 15 minutes. The company hopes to market the bike in 1996, for about \$800.

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possible with most airlines, although rules vary. For example, as an AAdvantage member with miles about to expire on Dec. 31, 1994, you could request an award certificate at the last minute, which would allow you another year in which to request a ticket. You could then gain an additional year by postponing the date of your award ticket, which means you could actually fly as late as December 1996. Another device is to get your eward combined with new miles for a higher level award, thus receiving another award certificate. In theory you could go on doing this indefinitely.
You may want to spend surplus miles

on botel nights or merchandise. JAL, for example, has e sumptuous catalogue offering e Marklin executive train set for 25,000 miles, e Samsonite briefcase for 50,000 miles, and for 100,000 miles a Royal Copenhagen porcelain coffee set, or a Nikon F-801 camera.

First there was money laundering; now there is mileage laundering. Hilton HHonors' new Reward Exchange program al-lows members to exchange airline miles in Alaska Mileage Plan, Delta Frequent Flyer, America West Flight Fund or United Mileage Plus for HHonors points, which have no expiry date, and vice versa, effectively beating most of the new expiry rules imposed by airlines. HHonors members can thus launder airline miles through the hotel program back into participating air-lines' FFPs.

**T**OU could theoretically convert Alaska Mileage Plan miles into United miles. But as with money laundering there is a premium to pay: 5,000 airline miles equals 10,000 HHonors points — which can only be exchanged back again for 1,500 airline miles. Hilton's intention is not to devalue miles. You need only spend \$1,000 et Hilton to earn 10,000 points — the point being that, if you have more Hilton points then you need you can exchange them to than you need, you can exchange them to top up the last few airline miles you need for an award on a partner carrier, Hilton/ Conrad HHooors Reward Exchange is valid until Dec. 31, 1995. You can also trade American Express Membership Miles for HHonors points in the plan.

Anyone who wants to make the most of FFPs should subscribe to Inside Flyer, a monthly magazine edited and published by FFP guru Randy Petersen. The magazine tracks frequent-flier programs and keeps you up to dete on changing conditions. Inside Flyer costs \$33 a year in the United States (\$38 elsewbere) from (1-719) 597-8880 (fax 597-6855). Petersen also publishes the Official Flyer Guidebook, 368 pages of detailed information on 53 FFPs worldwide. Price: \$19.90 (including P&P) from Inside Flyer, 4715-C Town Center Drive, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80916-4709. Frequent Flyer Services, (1-719) 597-8893, keeps track of your mileage in FFPs.

SONOMA VALLEY

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Carrier/Hotel	Location	Oeal					
AIR CANADA	Britain to Canada	Save up to £1,750 (\$2,735) on the round-trip business-class fare from London to Calgary, Edmonton or Vancouver. Fourteen-day advance purchase and 14-day minimum stay, For travel commencing between Jan. 1 and March 31.					
AIR UK	Britain to Amsterdam	Buy a full-economy round-trip ticket from a provincial airport (Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Humberside, Leeds/Bradford, Newcastle, Teeside, or Manchester) to Amsterdam and claim one free night at the Golden Tulip Barbizon Schiphol. Until March 31.					
GRAND HYATT ERAWAN	Bangkok	Winter Wonderland package for 14,000 baht for single, 15,000 for double (\$560 and \$600) includes three nights deluxe accommodation, airport transfers, American breakfast, use of fitness spa and late checkout till 6 P.M. Until Feb. 28.					
LAUDA AIR	London to Vienna	Round-trip business class-fare of £379 (\$590) savee £105 off BA/Austrian published fares.					
LUFTHANSA	United States to Europe	Discounts from 10 percent to 50 percent on Miles & More frequent-flier awards. Until March 31.					
MARSEILLE	Tourist Office	Two nights for the price of one at 41 participating hotels, for arrival Friday or Saturday, eight-day advance booking. Ask for "Weekend in Marseille" promotion. Tel: 91 54 91 11. Fax: 91 33 05 03. Until Oct. 31.					
NEW WORLD HOTELS INTERNATIONAL	China	Winter discounts feature room rates from \$114 a night at the Jing Guang in Beijing, \$99 at the Yangtze in Shanghai, and deluxe rooms for \$111 and suites \$148 in Guangzhou. Until Feb. 28.					
NORTHWEST	United States to Europe	WorldPerks members can travel to London, Paris, Frankfurt or Amsterdam with a companion for 20,000 miles plus \$299 on nonstop flights from the United Stales. Tickets must be purchased by Jan. 15 for travel before March 14, Not valid before Jan. 8.					
RELAIS DU POSTILLON	Antibes, France	Three-night New Year package (Dec. 30 to Jan. 2) for 795 francs (\$145) per person in double room includes Continental breakfasts and six-course gournet dinner.					
ROYAL GAROEN RESORT	Pattaya, Thailand	Chinese New Year package, from 2,870 baht (\$115) for one night to 7,200 baht for three nights, Includes welcome drink, American breakfasts and Chinese New Year gala dinner with show. From Jan. 27 to Feb. 5.					
SAS ROYAL HOTEL	Beijing	Standard rooms for \$95 and executive rooms for \$125 a night in- clude breakfast, a city-shuttle service and late checkout till					

3 P.M. Until Feb. 28.

Super Saver rates at 20 participating hotels and bed and breakfasts

in Sonoma Valley wine country. Rates from \$55 a night. Until March 31. Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau, (707) 996-1090.

Full-fare business-class passengers on last flight of the day or trave-

ling at any time Sunday can claim a free night at the four-slar Ascot

Passengers buying a round-trip economy ticket can claim a round-

trip ticket between London and New York or Boston. Tickets must

be bought by Dec. 31 for travel between Dec. 24 and March 31.

Hotel. Additional nights at 25-percent discount.

Although the IHT carefully checks these offers, please be forewarmed that some travel agents may be unaware of them, or unable to book them

California

London to Amsterdam

Hong Kong to London

# OCTOBER 1995 18 WEDNESDAY The New France: Implications for Global Business — Paris— **MARK YOUR DIARY!**

The International Herald Tribune and Institut Français des Relations Internationales are convening à major new conference on the theme, "The New France: Implications for Global Business." This prestigious event will assess the new developments in France following the presidential elections and will feature key members of the new government in addition to major industrialists and finance and government leaders from around the world.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Continued on Page 13

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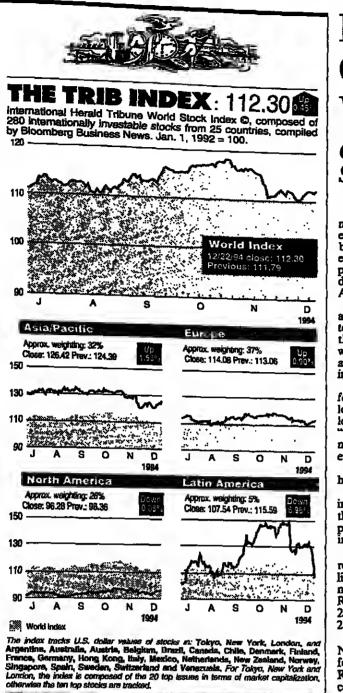
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International Herald Tribune, Friday, December 23, 1994



# **Ripples** Of Mexico Widen

Currency's Float Sinks Debt Prices

LONDON - The battered market in bonds of emerging economies was dealt another blow Thursday as Mexico floated its currency, and analysts predicted more volatility in debt instruments from Latin America to Russia.

Third World debt securities already had been slumping after a 15 percent devaluation of the Mexican peso Tuesday, which was largely a response to a threat of renewed insurrection in its southern state of Chiapas.

On Thursday, Mexico in effect gave up defending even the lower value of the peso by allowing the currency to float—"which scared people all the more," one trader in debt of emerging economies said.

East European debt was also hit by the sell-off. "People are getting crushed

in Latin America, and where there's an opportunity to take profits elsewhere, they are do-ing so," another trader said.

Concern over another insurrection, in the Chechnya republic of Russia, also weighed on the market, dragging down bonds of Russia's foreign trade bank to 26.5 percent of face value from 28.75 percent Wednesday.

The costs of quelling the North Caucasus territory's bid for independence could harm Russia's budget, but the main concern was a broader one of political volatility, analysts said.

"You can draw parallels with Mexico - there is civilian unrest, and the administration is shaky at the best of times," one debt trader said. Another added, "People are talking about the Chiapas-Chechnya factor."

Mexican par bonds slid four points in London to 54 points bid in afternoon trading. Dis-

See DEBT, Page 12

# Thyssen Is Fit to Be Wired Steel Titan Wants to Be Phone Giant

By Brandon Mitchener International Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — Thyssen AG, a titan of German heavy industry with interests in steel, elevators and civil engineering, plans to become one of Germany's biggest phone companies by the end of the decade, company

executives said Thursday.

Thyssen is widely considered an also-ran in Germany's booming market for telecommunications services, but Dieter Vogel, chairman of a newly founded unit, Thyssen Tele-com AG, said the company was "better-positioned than many imagine" and would rise to the bead of the pack.

"We expect annual revenue of 10 billion Deutsche marks [\$6.36 billion] by the end of the decade," said Mr. Vogel. The company's entire 1993 revenue, of which telecommunications accounted for less than 50 million DM, totaled 33.5 billion DM.

Thyssen shares rose 7.20 DM, to 290.50

DM on Thursday.

If realized, the company's ambinous in telecommunications would propel it to a starring role in a sector that is expected to surpass car manufacturing to become Germany's most important industry, doubling in size to around 100 billion DM by the year 2003 from 50 billion DM in 1993.

Many analysts remain skeptical about Thyssen's promises, however, which they say presume a stellar performance that is costly, a long way off and far from certain.
"It might have been better to save their

money, bolster their balance sheet and stick with steel," said Jenny Tora, a capital goods and steel analyst at Merrill Lynch & Co. in London, of the company's diversification.

"It's generally considered that diversification, which was fashionable in the 1970s and

By Keith Bradsher

New York Times Service

central bank's policy-making

committee was deeply divided

over whether to raise short-term

interest rates by three-quarters

15, according to minutes of the

While the final vote was unan-

imously in favor of the rate in-

of a percentage point on Nov.

meeting released Thursday.

WASHINGTON - The U.S.

early 1980s, was often as not a mistake," said Mrs. Tora. "Most companies that have read the textbooks are busy spinning off noncore businesses. I don't see wby Thyssen should succeed where so many others have failed."

Starting virtually from scratch, Thyssen plans to invest 3 billion to 4 billion DM in telecommunications services over the next five years, including mobile and stanonary voice and data services as well as interactive media.

It will apply for a license to operate a telephone and data network when that market is liberalized in 1998, according to Mr. Vogel. He also said Thyssen had taken a stake in the Gesellschaft für Datenfunk consor-num, which is led by RWE AG and includes Mannesmann AG and Deutsche Bank AG, Germany's biggest bank. The consortium won a government license for data communications earlier this year.

Mr. Vogel did not disclose the stake's size. Many analysts said RWE, VEBA AG and lag AG, three diversified utilities that are the company's major domestic competitors in the private sector, have what could be an unbeatable edge over Thyssen in telecommunications. There's a lot more in the culture of a utility company that makes you think they could run a phone company," said Mrs. Tora, worrying that Thyssen would never the company of the company of the company of the company. glect its relatively competitive specialty steel

Thyssen posted a loss of 1 billion DM in its steel business in the financial year that ended on Sept. 30, 1993.

"Thyssen has no infrastructure or knowbow that apply to phone services, and its pockets are not as deep as those of VEBA,

See THYSSEN, Page 13

Open Market Committee initial- quite small difference in the ef-

ly favored a half-point increase, fects of the alternative moves the minntes said. These memon the economy over time," the

Fed Was Split on Last Rate Rise

year on the economy had not yet

been felt, and that such a large

But these members eventual-

ly went along after deciding

that, "they could accept the de-

increase could damage consum-

er and business confidence.

crease, a minority of the mem-bers of the 12-person Federal the majority because of the

bers argued that the effect of five minutes said. carlier interest-rate increases this

# Canada Slaps **Excise Tax on** U.S. Magazine

By Clyde H. Farnsworth New York Times Service
TORONTO — The Canadian government on Thursday announced measures to protect its recording and publishing in-dustries, including a puninve tax on some U.S. magazines. The tax, which would affect

Canadian issues of Sports Illustrated and possibly other magazines, could provoke direct U.S. retalianon, although such a tax is not specifically prohibited by the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Although the two countries enjoy the world's largest exchanges of goods and services, cultural tensions overhang the relationship. Ottawa has come under increasing pressure from Canadian magazine publishers, who complain that Sports Illus-trated attracts Canadian adver-tising that should go to their publications.

The argument that the eco-nomic health of Canadian publishing underpins a national cultural identity has high resonance here but wins little sympathy in the United States.

"We have made our feelings very clear to them at high levsaid James J. Blanchard, the U.S. ambassador to Canada. "There may well have to be retaliation or a separate, special 301. We are looking at all our

law empowers President Bill Clinton to strike at imports from countries that take unfair trade action against U.S. exports.

NAFTA, which also covers trade with Mexico, exempts cul-The disagreement is signifitural industries from the discant because it represents the mantling of trade barriers. But first time this year that some while Canada would not violate members of the Fed have arthe accord by taking discrimigued for a slower pace. Until natory action against Time now, the committee has been Warner Inc., the publisher of unusually unified, with only the Sports Illustrated, the United occasional dissent in favor of an even faster pace of interest rate States also would not violate the agreement by retaliating.

"We have no problem if they want to subsidize these industries," Mr. Blanchard said.
"Where we object is when they act to penalize our industries, making us pay the cost."

Time Warner publishes six Canadian issues a year of Sports Illustrated through a satellite printing operation in Montreal.

Under what is called a split run, Time Warner essentially takes the American magazine, adds a few pages of Canadian editorial content and turns it into a Canadian product that competes for advertising.

Through satellite printing. Time Warner found a way to bypass 20-year-old Canadian restrictions barring Canadian companies from writing off their advertising costs in American magazines for tax purposes. The restrictions originally covered magazines printed in the United States and trucked into Canada.

Canadian publishers have worried that if Sports Illustrated's split run is not challenged, foreign English-language magazines with significant circulation in Canada could follow suit.

### ■ Progress Seen in Tokyo

The ebances of clinching a U.S.-Japan agreement on greater access to Tokyo's financialservices industry before a year-Section 301 of American trade end deadline have brightened, sources familiar with the talks said Thursday, according to a Reuters dispatch from Tokyo.

"They might get something when they get together next week, so the prime minister and the president can point to it when they meet," a source said. Negotiators from the two sides are expected to meet in Seattle on Wednesday and Thursday, while Mr. Clinton and Tomiichi Murayama, Japan's prime minister, are to meet on Jan. 11 in Washington.

### **WALL STREET WATCH**

For more information about the Index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neutly Cedex, France.

# **Deriving Profit From Banks' Losses**

113.30 112.85 +0,40

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O International Herald Tribune

By Saul Hansell
New York Times Service

Industrial Sectors

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NEW YORK - High-rolling hedgefund managers like George Soros were the first to disclose that they lost money in the plunging bond market this year. Then came Piper Jaffray & Hopwood and other staid mutual-fund managers.

More recently, several municipalities, most notably Orange County, California, confessed to substantial losses from risky interest rate bets gone bad.

Now banks are coming clean. Some big ones, including PNC Bank Corp., Keycorp and Bane One, have already said they would be hurt by problems in their investment portfolios. But banking analysts said there were many more that compiled similar losses but have not yet been as forthcoming. Analysts said it was difficult to deter-

mine which banks were hardest hit. That is because banks provide only limited disclosure about the effects of changes in interest rates on their balance sheets. Indeed, the reason that banking losses

are just starting to trickle out now—rather than in the spring when the problems at mutual funds first emerged—is not because the losses are newer. Instead, it is because accounting rules make it easier for banks to hide their mistakes.

For buyers of banking shares, the silver lining is that the expectation of this bad news has already depressed prices indiscriminately across the board. Analysts said there was an opportunity to buy undervalued banks that have not

Analysts said many banks would face up to their losses by early 1995. They would do so by selling losing investments to concentrate the pain in one quarterly reduction in earnings.
Some likely candidates, analysts said,

include the Fleet Financial Group, Boat-men's Baneshares and Huntington Baneshares. Other banks - including Shaw-

Rising interest rates have depressed banks' stock prices — even those that stand to gain.

mut National, Central Fidelity and Integra Financial - will probably not take big one-time write-offs. Instead, they may simply suffer through the next few years with depressed earnings because their credit-market investments

pay low interest.

The problems could get worse before they get better. "If we see another increase in rates, we will see some more banks start to hemorrhage," said Thomas Hanley, a bank analyst with CS First

The interest-rate losses are concentral ed among regional and local banks, which turned to investments in bonds when the drop in loan demand in the late 1980s and early 1990s cut deeply into earnings.

been burt, or may even benefit, from Many banks borrowed at low short-term rates to pour money into higher-yielding longer-term bonds that appeared to offer safe returns with bittle effort.

"It's like putting a bowl of candy in front of a child," said Frank DeSantis, a bank analyst at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Scentiles Corp. "It was there for the taking."

U.S. bank stocks bave lost about 10 percent of their value as a result of the problems. Among banks that analysts said might now be undervalued is First Interstate Bancorp, which gains ground from interest rate increases because an unusually high percentage of its deposi-tors' money is in checking accounts that do not pay interest. Thus, when market rates rise, its interest costs do not rise as fast as at other banks.

The big New York banks, such as Citibank and Chase Manhattan, also do not face sharp losses from rising interest rates, largely because their investments are more diversified than those of smaller institutions.

Even with the sketchy information that has been disclosed so far, it is clear that many banks with paper profits on their bond investments at the end of last year now have positions that are deeply

A study by Morgan Stanley & Co., which includes information not disclosed in bank statements, shows that as of Sept. 30, the value of the \$217 billion of bonds in the portfolios of 24 big regional banks had declined \$5.4 billion.

We wish

all of our clients and friends a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

**CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES** 

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BANK JULIUS BAER

THE FINE ART OF SWISS BANKING

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Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

stocks rose on Thursday as in-

cy flowed out of Mexico and

The market turmoil in Mexi-

U.S. Stocks

percent devaluation proved in-

sufficient, depressed Telefonos

de Mèxico, American depositary

receipts of other Mexican com-

But otherwise, the develop-

ments helped to boost U.S.

stocks as money repatriated

point rally on Wednesday, al-

though declining issues held a

taled 339.67 million shares on

Thursday, off from 378.81 mil-

lion shares on Wednesday, and

Teléfonos, the most actively

Thursday morning were in line

Economic data released

traded share, fell 44 to 40%.

Volume on the Big Board to-

slight lead over gainers.

panies and a few bank stocks.

into American investments.

NEW YORK - Blue-chip

**Earnings Outlook** 

Gives Lift to Stocks

vestors grew confident about product growth to 4.0 percent

corporate earnings and as mon-annually from 3.9 percent Ini-

co, where the government decid-stocks were again leading the

ed to let the peso float after a 15 market higher on hopes of im-

American market.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 13.12 points, to 3,814.92, extending the 34.65-point rally on Wednesday.

strong.

with expectations. The govern-

ment revised its estimate of

third-quarter gross domestic

tial unemployment claims rose

Cyclical and technology

The autos and the alumi-

said Donald Smith,

nums should be up because the

economy seems to be still pretty

president of Donald Smith &

Auto stocks rallied as Chrys-

ler said sales at its Jeep-Eagle

division climbed to a record and

as CS First Boston began re-

search coverage on Ford with a

Pentium chip, rose 1/2 to 631/4.

Citicorp dropped 2 to 41% and BankAmerica declined % to

39% as bank stocks fell after

reports that S.G. Warburg had

downgraded Citicorp and some

analysts voiced concern about

banks exposure to Latin American economies. (AP. Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

down from 1.5806 DM Wed-

nesday and at 100.250 yen down

from 100,475. The dollar rose to

5.4705 French francs from

The pound strengthened to

But the dollar pushed to an 8-

year high against the Canadian dollar despite the Bank of Can-

ada's intervention in support of

The dollar rose to 1.3987 Ca-

nadian dollars from 1,3940 on

cit, and Quebec separatism.

5.4510 but slipped to 1.3315

Swiss francs from 1.3340 francs.

\$1,5468 from \$1.5420.

its currency.

Wednesday.

Co. in Paramus, New Jersey.

proved earnings in 1995.

3,000 last week.

**Dow Jones Averages** 

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Standard & Poor's Indexes

**NYSE Indexes** 

NASDAQ Indexes

**AMEX Stock Index** 

NYSE Diary

AMEX Diary

**NASDAQ Diary** 

Spot Commodities

The Dow

Daily clasings of the

1994

**NYSE Most Actives** 

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Vol. High Low Last

**NASDAQ Most Actives** 

**AMEX Most Actives** 

Dow Jones industrial average

fraud charges related to its sales of derivatives, the government agencies said Thursday. The agencies investigated Bankers Trust's sales of derivatives to several clients that lost millions of dollars, but charged the bank

only in connection with sales to Gibson Greetings Inc. The U.S. bank sold derivatives that were too complicated for Gibson, the agencies said. Bankers Trust then gave the Gincinnan maker of greetings cards false values for the derivatives, which subsequently were published in the company's annual reports.

# **BAT Wins Tobacco Battle**

WASHINGTON (Bloomberg) — BAT Industries PLC and the Federal Trade Commission reached an out-of-court settlement. Thursday that would allow the British tobacco company's \$1 billion. purchase of American Tobacco Co. from American Brands Inc. The agreement ended a court challenge by the FTC, which

charged the merger would cut competition in the U.S. cigarette market. BAT agreed to spin off several American Tobacco nigarette brands and an American Tobacco factory in North Carolina Among the brands to be relinquished are the discount Montclair brand and the full-priced Tareyton brand.

American Brands said it would repurchase up to 10 million shares of its common stock after the BAT deal. Combined with another 10 million-share purchase authorized by the company's board three weeks ago, American Brands could buy roughly 10 percent of its outstanding common shares. American Brands-stock jumped \$1 on the news, to \$37.75.

# Masco Tech Unveils Divestiture Plan

TAYLOR, Michigan (Bloomberg) - MascoTech Inc. said Thursday it would take a \$300 million after-tax charge in the fourth quarter to dispose of certain business groups, resulting in a substantial loss for the fourth quarter and year.

As part of an anticipated restructuring intended to focus on its automotive parts business, MascoTech will either liquidate or divest businesses with annual sales of about \$700 million. Masto-Tech said it believed these businesses, when disposed of will garner cash and other proceeds of about \$400 million.

# **Borland Tumbles to All-Time Low**

SCOTT VALLEY, California (Bloomberg) - Borland International Inc. shares tumbled to an all-time low, slumping \$3 in lare trading to \$8.375, after the software publisher said it expected a "substantial" third-quarter loss and that its chief operating officer resigned after less than a year on the job. Borland, once the thirdlargest U.S. software company, also said it would make unspecified "significant changes" in operations because of operating losses and lower revenue. The company also hired Booz, Allen & Hamilton, amanagement firm, to help it formulate a long-term strategy.

### For the Record

Salomon Brothers Inc. said it sold \$405 million of corporate securities on behalf of the Orange County investment pool after receiving bids of \$2.8 billion for the securities. (AFX)

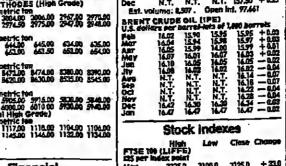
# Ukraine Loan Is Cleared

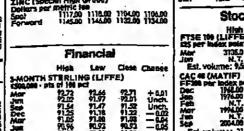
WASHINGTON - The World Bank on Thursday announced a \$500 million loan to Ukraine and praised the policies of President Leonid Kuchma.

The government under President Kuchma has demonstrated strong commitments to reform by implementing a series of difficult and far-reaching measures," the lending agency said, including ending most price controls and exportquotas, unifying currency exchange rates, reducing subsidies and setting up a safety net for Ukraine's poorest citizens.

Mr. Kuchma said last month that after Ukraine agreed to dismantle its nuclear weapons and to reform its economy, Western countries should come through with more aid.

The loan is designed to help stabilize and restore growth to Ukraine's economy after sharp declines that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union. The World Bank estimated Ukrainian per-capita income at \$1,190 last year, compared with \$2,500 in 1990. (AP. Reuters)





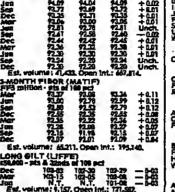
EUROPEAN FUTURES

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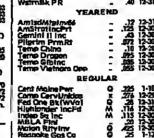












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STOCK

# DEBT: Mexico's Currency Moves Depress Emerging-Country Bond Prices

But analysts said the sell-off throughout South America was essentially a knee-jerk reaction. "It's nothing to do with fun-

damentals," Ingrid fversen of Morgan Grenfell said. Analysts said Brazil and Ar-

gentina were unlikely to devalue their currencies, although the sbock waves from Mexico sent their stock markets plunging 6

### **Dollar Stumbles After Traders Take Profits** The dollar closed in New York at 1.5743 Deutsche marks.

NEW YORK - The dollar slipped against other major currencies Thursday as investors paused to reassess the impact of

the collapsing Mexican peso. The dollar had been underpinned in recent days by a repatriation of funds from Mexico

### Foreign Exchange

after the government devalued the peso late Tuesday. The Mexican currency has continued to slide since. The dollar traded at 4.65 pesos Thursday, up from 3.9870 pesos late Wednesday.

But some profit-taking before the year-end and thin trading took the steam out of the dollar's rally, traders said. "Most people have established positions for the end of the year," said a Zurich-based

dealer for a major Swiss bank. "When something is offered, people are just not ready to change their positions."

To subscribe in France just call, tall free, 05 437 437

# Continued from Page 11

Traders said several factors contributed to the Canadian bid at 76, a fall of more than currency's weakness, including three points. The bonds were relatively steady Canadian inissued as part of the restructurterest rates amid higher U.S. ing of Mexico's bank debt, in rates, a worrisome hudget defiwhich some loans were repaid at face, or par, value, while oth-On back of those concerns, ers were redeemed at a discount investment has stopped flowing from the full value but higher into Canadian instruments, said

interest rates. Dave Glowacki, a trader at Other Latin American instru-NBD Bank in Detroit. (Reuters, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg)

than three points at 39.625 bid was unlikely to be a rally before than buyers at the moment." counted Mexican bonds were and Brazilian bonds down four year-end.

points at 79.5. "The market's clearly uncertain and has taken a lot of pain. It keys stop-loss sells, becomes Mexico has always been a self-perpetuating." benchmark asset and has re- "Some very good values have rated the whole sector down," a trader said.

Analysts said it was difficult was in the emerging debt marments fell in tandem, with Ar- ket, but with the Christmas f do that now or in January. gentinian par-value down more bolidays about to begin, there Sellers are in more of a rush

been exposed in this panicky sell-off," said a British trader. "I'm looking for when I might to see where the bottom line take advantage of prices, but it doesn't make much difference if

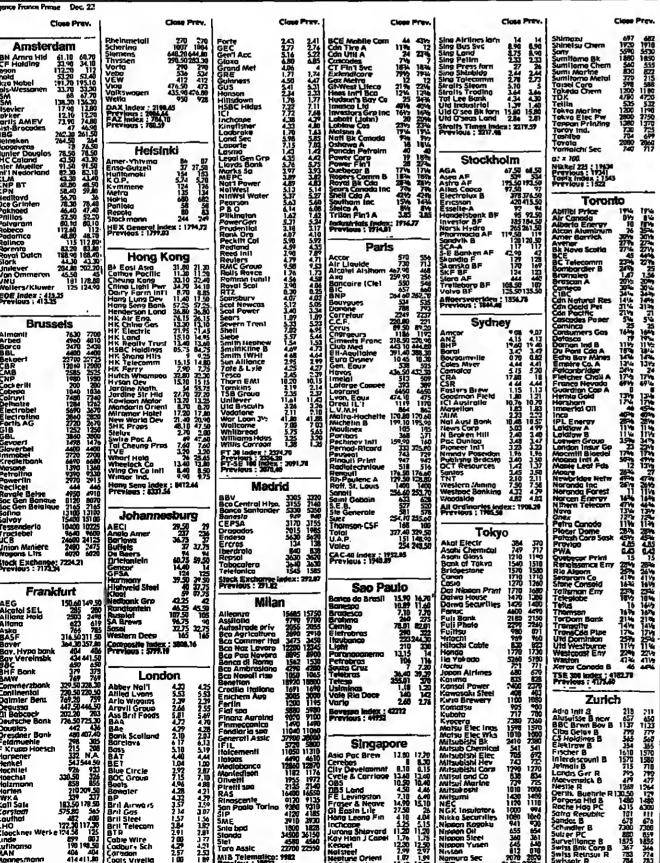
"It's just chasing the market

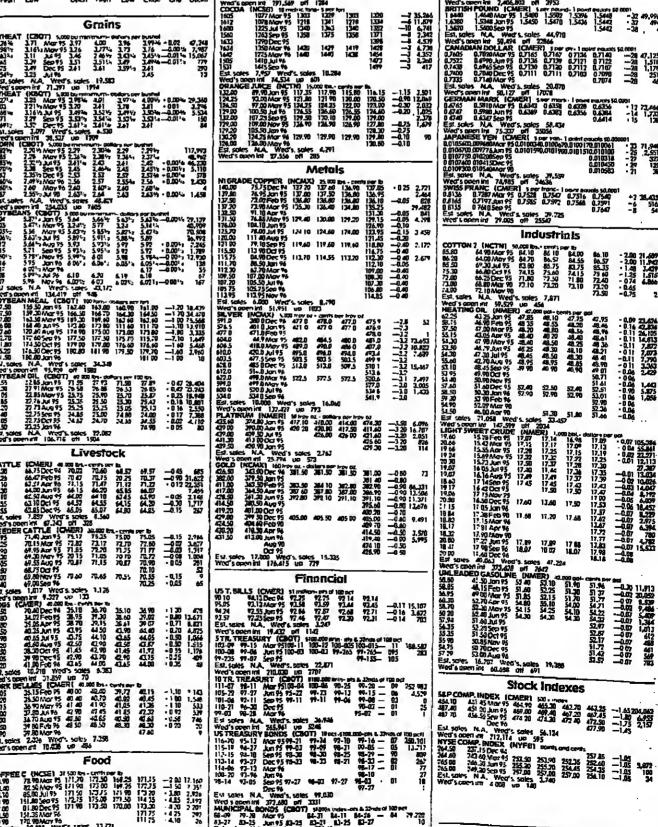
down which creates problems.

Industrials

percent Wednesday.

# **WORLD STOCK MARKETS**





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A CONTRACT OF THE PROPERTY OF

The ghastly experiments by Nazi doctors

during the war on prison camp inmates plus the Nazi notion of creating a superior race

still haunt Germans, giving the concept of

The politically powerful Green movement in Germany has led public opposition to

genetic technology research and production. Scores of Green groups around the country

file lawsuits to stop biotechnology work, and elected officials have put up local barriers to

Some environmentalists have trampled ge-

netically engineered vegetables on experi-

mental plots and burst into laboratories. The

most vociferous opposition is aimed at geneti-

There are no more than 5 experimental

plots in Germany where scientists can grow

cally engineered plants and animals.

With genetic engineering

Germany cannot compete

drugs, there are fears

with the U.S. and Asia.

Mannheim GmbH outside Munich.

little influence.

found naturally in leeches.

in the French plant.

seen producing new wonder

genetically altered vegetables, compared with

1,000 in the United States, said Peter Buckel,

director of genetic engineering at Boehringer

Boehringer Mannheim, a conspicuous ex-

ception to the dearth of biotech facilities in

Germany, functions partly because the com-

pany is based in the conservative state of

Bavaria, where the Green Party has relatively

German suspicions about biotechnology

have given rise to European centers of biotech-nology emerging beyond Germany's borders.

The Alsace region of France, for example, has attracted Swiss and German companies.

Hoechst recently built a plant north of Paris to

make Hirudin, an anti-coagulant medication

When Germany's legislature passed the Genetic Engineering Act last May to encour-age biotechnology at home, Hoechst applied

to make Hirudin out of baker's yeast, but ran

to near Paris and we received authorization in

six weeks from the French government," said Dieter Brauer, head of Hoechst's biotech re-

search and development. Within months the

company had invested more than \$10 million

ture gene," said Mr. Buckel at Boehrioger Mannheim. "American are so much more

"We need to do research to find the adven-

The decision was made to shift the plant

into a logiam from local politicians.

0 in Belgium, 30 in France and more than

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# **Bundesbank Leaves Rates** Unchanged

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
FRANKFURT — The

Bundesbank on Thursday held its key interest rates steady as well as its target range for mon-ey supply growth in 1995.

The central hank said its discount rate would remain steady at 4.5 percent and its Lombard rate would stay at 6 percent. while the target range for M-3 would remain between 4 per-cent and 6 percent for 1995.

In spite of the decision to leave rates unchanged, many analysts said German interest rates have probably bottomed out since the economy is growing strongly and more quickly than expected. A shift lo rate in-

### Telekom to Cut **Use of Computers To Combat Fraud**

FRANKFURT - Deutsche Telekom said Thursday it of August of money-market would begin manually connecting calls made to some so-called telephone-sex lines to thwart fraud being committed with automatic-dialing computers. The national phone company

said it would start manually connecting calls to some foreign-owned toll telephone services to prevent unscrupulous companies from using computers to repeatedly call their own services, generate phony charges and collect payment for them from Telekom.

Telekom said it would use human operators for selected foreign-owned services that it "suspected" of criminal activity.

This month, German police arrested more than 60 people the Bundesbank, which by law suspected of setting up pay-phooe services, usually sex lines, and using computers to generate phony charges. Under most pay-service phone arrangements, Deutsche Telekom receives 52 percent of the reveoue and the owner of the service that continuation of the 1994 gets 48 percent.

other steps early next year to growth in the coming year."
stop fraud. It did not elaborate.

(AFP, Reuters, A

NYSE

Thursday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to
the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect

creases would dovetail with U.S. and British moves to lift rates in a bid to limit inflation.

But Bundesbank watchers will have a hard time getting interest-rate signals from Hans Tietmeyer, president of the Bundesbank.

"As I've made clear many times, we are in a different situation than other countries," he said. "The question is not just when or how far upward to raise them. We are looking at all options."

The figure for growth of M-3 has only recently fallen to 6 percent, having exceeded the target range for most of the year since January, when it showed annual growth of slightly more than 20 percent from the average figure for the last quarter of

ası vear. The bank has explained that while it retained its faith in M-3 as the chief guide to the setting of monetary policy, the mea-sure had been distorted by technical factors. One of these was the legalization at the beginning mutual funds, which attracted 5.45 billion Deutsche marks (\$3.47 billion) in November

alone. M-3 comprises cash in circulation, checking accounts and savings placed for up to four

Germany's key rates were last changed in May when the Bundesbank cut the discount and Lombard rate by half a percentage point each.

Mr. Tietmeyer said be expected inflation in Western Germany would be at a moderate level of 2 percent in the

medium term. The German government appeared pleased by the actions of retains independence from the

government. "This money-supply target is appropriate to the economic situation," said Finance Minister Theo Waigel, while Economics Minister Günter Rexrodt said corridor would "allow suffi-Telekom said it would take cient liquidity for economic

(AFP, Reuters, AP)

# Germans Reject Biotech Firms Feel Forced to Invest Abroad

By Nathaniel C. Nash New York Times Service

HOECHST, Germany - Hoechst AG, the pharmaceutical company, has poured \$90 mil-lion into its biotechnology operations. Its rival BASF AG has opened an \$80 million biotech research operation, and Bayer AG has just entered a \$25 million biotech joint venture.

These investments by the three German pharmaceutical giants were made not in Germany but in the United States and elsewhere. German businesses are reluctant to invest in biotechnology at home not only because of innate caution about risky ventures, but also because of opposition from militant environ-

mentalists and the bad name given genetic engineering by the Nazis in World War II. "Biotech is almost nonexistent within Ger-many," said Ulrieb Langer, a chemicals ana-lyst at Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "Public opinion is still very much against it, so German companies find they have to go ahroad,

to the U.S. or Japan." The problems were illustrated when Hoechst decided a decade ago to open Germany's first production plant for genetically

engineered buman insulin. Ten years later, after battles with German laws, red tape and court challenges from local politicians and environmental groups, the plant sits unfinished at the company's home base here. Hoechst executives do not expect to start selling insulin until 1996 and estimate the years of delay will lose them more than \$300 million in revenue.

When Hoechst, BASF and Bayer gave presentations to analysts this month, none of the biotechnology investments they outlined were

"North America has not replaced Germany as a location for business, but there are certain innovative activities which are best performed in the U.S.," Manfred Schneider, Bayer's chairman, said.

With Germany struggling to emerge from its worst recession in decades and with more than 3 million unemployed, exporting biotech jobs to other countries carries some long-term ramifications.

Pharmaceutical industry officials predicted the majority of new wooder drugs will emerge from genetic engineering. This has led to doubts that Germany can compete with companies from the United States and Asia.

Lack of domestie support for the biotech industry here has also created a brain drain, with German scientists being hired away by companies abroad.

President Roman Herzog of Germany lamented in a recent interview with the news magazine Focus, "Especially for gene tech-oology, f have the feeling that there is oo more chance for Germany here."

Div Yld PE 100s High LowLohestCh'ge 12 Manuth High Low Slock Div Yld PE 100s High LowLohestCh'ge

Resistance in Germany to producing such wonder drugs as EPO, which stimulates growth of red blood cells vital to dialysis patients, or TPA, a blood-thinning agent for heart attack Germany. We need to wake up."

### **OTC Drug Unit From** natients, has roots in German history as well as Rhône n more recent political movements.

Commied by Our Staff From Dupatche BASEL, Switzerland — Ciba-Geigy AG said Thursday it was buying Rhône-Poulenc Rorer Inc.'s U.S. and Canadian over-the-counter line of drugs for \$407 million.

Ciba to Buy

The products involved include the antacid Maalox, the laxative Perdiem and the coated aspirin Ascriptin. Ciba also will take over a production facility in Fort

Washington, Pennsylvania. Ciba said the acquisition would bolster its share of a growing market and would add about \$160 million in sales next year for its self-medication division. The news sent Ciba's shares

up sharply, to 790 Swiss francs (\$595) from 779 francs Wednes-day. On the Paris bourse, shares of Rhone-Poulene SA, the parent company of Rhône-Poulenc Rorer, rose to 129.50 French francs (\$24) from 128.80.

Analysts said the deal was positive for both sides. Arvind Desai, with Mehta & Isaly, a New York pharmaceutical re-search firm, said Ciba acquired a great franchise of products at a reasonable valuation."

Rhone-Poulenc, meanwhile, "had made it quite clear that they were too small in the U.S. OTC market," said Christine Lebreton, drug analyst at the Oddo brokerage in Paris. "It seemed they would look for a U.S. partnership, but, looking at it, this is a fair price."

Rhône-Poulenc retains the right to sell Maalox outside North America and should benefit from its marketing partnership with Ciba, analysts said.

Ciba said the deal would place it among the 10 top sellers of over-the-counter drugs in the United States. (Bloomberg, AP)

### ■ Zeneca Expands in U.S.

Zeoeca Group PLC said Thursday it would pay \$195 million for a 50-percent stake in Salick Health Care Inc., news agencies reported from London.

The deal gives Zeneca the Deutsche marks (\$2.5 billion), right to buy the rest of Salick, the Treuhand said Thursday. which provides health services for patients with cancer and other chronic illnesses, after twoand-a-half years for \$42 per share. That option could the plants.

Zeneca an additional \$255 milter plants.

"We spoke intensively with share. That option could cost

### Frankfurt London **CAC 40** FTSE 100 Index 2200 3300 3200 2100 3100 Exchange Prev. Close Thursday % Change 413.35 +0.48 AEX 415.35 Amsterdam +0.71 Brussels Stock Index 7,224.21 7,173.24 Frankfurt 2,100.65 2,086.66 +0.67 FAZ Frankfurt 780.59 +0.72 786.18 Helsinkl HEX 1,794.72 1,799.03 -0.24 Financial Times 30 2,374.70 London +0.79 2.356.20 London FTSE 100 3,091.70 3,070.40 +0.69 Madrid General Index 292.07 291.82 +0.09

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**Investor's Europe** 

### Very briefly:

Sources: Reuters, AFF

CAC 40

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ATX Index

**Paris** 

Vienna

Zurich

Stockholm

Aramco, the Saudi-American oil company, is negotiating to huy half of the Greek oil company Motor Oil (Hellas) Corinth Refiner-ies SA from the Vardinoyannis family, banking sources said.

• Telefónica Internacional of Spain said it had signed an agreement with a group of banks led by ABN-AMRO Holding NV for a \$1.1 billion credit to finance acquisitions in Peru.

• The European Commission said it had cleared the acquisition by the French pay television channel Canal Plus of a 24.9 percent stake in the German television company Vox.

• European Union ministers cleared the GATT world trade pact for ratification, opening the way for the EU to complete approval of the treaty in Geneva Dec. 30.

Britain posted a current-account surplus of £846 million (\$1 billion) for the third quarter, the first surplus in that account since the first quarter of 1987.

 Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd. of Australia said it would acquire the Polish soft-drink operations of Coca-Cola Co. for \$237 million. Reviers, Bloomberg, AFP

# Dow Agrees to German Deal

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches privatization agency Treuhand has agreed to sell three chemical plants in the former East Germany to Dow Chemical Corp. in a transaction worth 4 billion

The purchase, which was anticipated, will give Dow control of chemical plants in Leuna, Buna and Böhlen. Dow will in-

the Treuhand in December and BERLIN - The German are very happy over the progress reached during those discussions," said Elmar Deut-sche, vice president of Dow Deutschland GmbH, the company's German subsidiary.

Markus Kaiser, a Dow Deutschland spokesman, said the company planned to make chlorine-based alkalines at the Buna plant and plastics, including polyethylene, in Leuna. Böhlen will process the chemical raw materials for both. (Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

# FIDELITY FUNDS

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### NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of Fidelity Funds ("the Corporation") will be held at the registered office of the Fund in Luxembourg on Friday 6th January 1995 at noon to consider the following proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation.

### **AGENDA**

1. Deletion in paragraph 2 of article 22 of the Articles of Incorporation of the terms "in Luxembourg" in the two places where they appear.

Amendment of paragraph 9 "Valuation Regulations", sub-paragraph B(ii) of article 22 of the Articles of Incorporation so that it reads as follows:

"(ii) securitles which are traded on stock exchanges are to be valued at the last available closing price on the Valuation Date (or if there has been no sale, at the closing bid pricet quoted on the stock exchange which is normally the principal market for such security, or. if the Board so decides, at the last available price at the time when the valuation is carried out. or, in unusual circumstances of trading activity such that the Corporation considers that such price dues not reflect fair market value, at fair market value in the opinion of the Corporation". Deletion in article 22 of the Articles of Incorporation, paragraph 9, subparagraph B(v) of

Subject to the limitations imposed by the Articles of Incorporation of the Fund with regard to ownership of shares by US persons or of shares which constitute in the aggregate more than three percent (3%) of the nutstanding shares, each share is entitled to one vote. A shareholder may ariend and vote at the meeting or may appoint a proxy to ariend and vote. Such proxy need

not be a shareholder of the Fund. Shareholders are advised that a quarum of fifty percent of the shares outstanding of the Corporation present or represented is required in order to constitute a valid meeting and the resolutions must be carried by a majority of two/thirds of the shares at the meeting.

Holders of Registered Shares may vote by proxy by returning to the registered office of the Fund the form of registered shareholder proxy sent to them.

Holders of Bearer Shares who wish to attend the Extraordinary General Meeting or vote at the Meeting by proxy should cuntact the Fund, or one of the following institutions:

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Banque Indosnez 96, Boulevant Haussmann F-75371 PARIS Cedex 08

Dated: November 25, 1994

in Hong Kong Fidelity Investments Management t Hong Kong) Limited 16th Phor. Citibank Tower 3 Garden Road, central Hung Kong

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To be valid, proxies must reach the registered office of the Find on the 3rd January 1905 at 17.00 pm (Luxembourg time) at the latest.

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# THYSSEN: Phone Ambitions

Continued from Page 11 RWE or Viag," said one Frank-

furt analyst. Despite such criticism, Thyssen executives said it would be irresponsible to count them out.

Together with VEBA, Vodafone Group PLC. BellSouth Corp. and a handful of other investors, Thyssen owns 28.4 percent of E-Plus, the second private cellular phone venture to be approved in Germany. Unlike the first one, Mannesmann Mobilfunk, E-Plus aimed immediately at a mass market with lower user fees and small, user-friendlier handsets. It now

where it is available. Moreover, Thyssen is counting on the support of strong partners. "We're in intense discussions" with partners "with access to international markets," said Mr. Vogel

captures a third of all new cellular phone customers in the areas

Thyssen already works to-gether with EDS Corp., the General Motors Corp. data-processing unit, and Itochu Corp., the world's biggest trading company, in Spaceline Communications Services GmbH, a subsidiary founded in 1992 to offer business television, videoconferences and multimedia services.

Without an Allidavit 20% Japanese tas.— Yen 550 — 10k, 955 per CFR repr. 500 abs, Yen L 100 — 10k, 19,30 per CFR repr. L 100 abs, will be deducted. After 31/X3% the dividend will only be paid under deduction of 20% Jup. to: with 19th, 384/3; Uffe. 77/26 repr. resp. 500 and 1,000 size, in accordance with the Japanese

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# China's GATT Bid Failed Because Money Talks

By Steven Mulson

BEIJING - For weeks or months, China's leaders tried — unsuccessfully, it turned out to bluff, bluster and bully their way into the new World Trade Organization before a year-end deadline, even though other nations said China's

trading rules did not meet world standards.
China's strategy was based on the belief that
its market was so immense and irresistible that governments and companies would bend or overlook rules just as they have overlooked human rights violations in China.

It did not work. This week, the United States and major European nations — at least for now—refused to bend the rules for China and put of further talks until Fehruary. They said China needed to open its markets, make its currency more convertible and stop piracy of books, tapes, compact disks and other products.

[China said Thursday it would not honor agreements reached during the Uruguay round of trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as a result of its inability to

Join GATT, which will be succeeded by the WTO at year-end. Reuters reported.
["We cannot enjoy the rights accorded GATT

members" because Beijing was not allowed to join, a Foreign Ministry spokesman. Chen Jian, said at a weekly news briefing.

["Since we will not be able to enjoy the rights.

### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

of course we will not undertake any obligations.

China miscalculated. In the absence of a meaningful human rights dialogue or a Soviet strategic threat. China's reluctance to abide by trade rules went in the heart of its relationship with other nations — money, an issue less easily distrissed.

We threw in the towel on human rights." said one U.S. executive in Shanghai. 'Most business-

man think that was the right thing to do. Now we're down to what really counts.

state. At least seven of those Chinese companies started exporting the product, threatening the U.S. company's prospects not only in China but

"When it affects you and your survival as a company, it's a lot closer to home," he said.

Such problems undermined the coalition that nelped China pressure the United States to sever its link hetween human rights and China's trade status. When that decision was made six months ago, most American companies had been trying to help China win concessions.

Now. U.S. companies are urging American

changed China's hargaining position.
It is easy to understand why China got the impression it held all the cards. Despite the problems involved in doing business here, for-

product that it had developed exclusively. Now the product has been copied by 30 Chinese cial treatment as a developing nation. Several companies, many of which have links to the officials from other governments endorsed that view, but U.S. negotiators said China was an "export powerhouse."

China is already the world's 10th-largest trading nation, and the fastest-growing one. In the first 11 months of 1994, China's foreign trade came to \$200.28 billion, up 22 percent from a

But trade is a two-way street. If trade is disrupted, the southern Chinese province of Guang-dong, which has boomed with the growth of its toy, clothing and other light-manufacturing industries, would suffer. And if Guangdong suffers, and its millions of nugrant workers from und European trade negotiators to insist that Sichuan go borne, then Sichuan suffers too, and China meet the standards of other nations. That the ripples would continue to roll throughout the Chinese economy

China desperately wanted the prestige of becoming a founding member of the WTO, even though it had been a member of GATT and

# eign officials and companies still parade through Beijing eager to sign contracts. pulled out in 1949 when the Communists who still rule China came to power. The executive's company made a chemical still rule China came to power. Japan Reaches a Young Market Girls Snap Up Children's Version of Digital Assistant

By Andrew Pollack

New York Times Service TOKYO -- Apple Computer Inc.'s personal digital assistant, the Newton, did not exactly catch on with American businessmen. Maybe the company should

have focused on Japanese girls instead. Hand-beld electronic organizers designed for children are beginning to catch on in the United States. But in Japan, they are all the rage among preteenage girls, and they are being snapped up as Christmas presents this year.
Prices range from \$30 to more than

\$200 for the devices, which are made by Casio Computer Co., Sharp Corp., Sega Enterprises Co. and toy makers such as Takara Co. and Bandai Co.

Casio expects to sell 500,000 children's organizers and 500,000 adult organizers in Japan this financial year.

The company predicts total industry sales of children's organizers in Japan will reach 1.2 million this year, compared with 800,000 last year and 400,000 in 1992. Takara introduced the first children's organizer in 1991.

The petite digital assistants include many of the same functions as the adult versions, such as appointment calendars and phone directories.

But they also offer games such as fortune-telling and computer-animated "virtual pels" for the many children who live in apartments that prohibit animals. In a digital version of whispering, some of the devices can transmit short messages to another device across the room via infrared light beams.

At least one top-of-the-line model also can store short diary entries -- encrypted to keep them from being read by parents

or anyone who does not know the code Analysts say the products present a good example of how to make electronics appeal to children, something that is increasingly important as the personal

computer becomes a family appliance. It is a lesson some American companies are eager to learn. Last week, for instance. Apple turned to Bandai, the Japanese toy company known for its popular Mighty Morphin Power Ranger characters, to make and sell a multimedia game machine that would be a simplified version of the Apple Macintosh personal computers.

The children's organizers, with related children's word processors and new ma-

The devices allow children to keep 'virtual pets,' send messages by infrared signals and make encrypted diary entries.

chines that print adhesive stickers, are also rare examples of electronic products that appeal primarily to girls, who have generally shown less interest than boys in personal computers and video games. Before such products were developed,

magazine polls found that electronic organizers were among the products most desired by such girls, perhaps because they saw their parents using them. The gender preferences were evident at the Sogo Department Store in Yokohama, which was filled with Christmas

shoppers on a recent day.

A crowd of boys waited in line to try
out the newest video game machines from Sega and Sony Corp. But a few feet away, an equally big crowd, almost all girls, gathered around a counter display-

ing a variety of electronic organizers.

So far, few such models have been offered for sale outside Japan, as the Japanese companies that pioneered the concept have been concentrating on supplying their own market first.

Casio Computer Co., probably the leader in the children's organizer market, began selling one such product in the United States last year and is offering three this year.

They range from the relatively simple My Magic Diary, with a list price of \$40, to the \$80 Secret Sender 6000, which allows for infrared transmission of messages over a distance of 25 feet (8 meters) and can be used as a remote control for the television set or videocassette record-

Casio expects to sell 600,000 children's organizers in the United States this year, Sega and Tiger Electronics Inc., based in Chicago, bave similar devices in the American market this year,

I Japan's PC Market Picks Up

After three sluggish years, Japan's personal computer market expanded 30 percent this year and will continue to grow rapidly. The Associated Press reported. quoting a private research company.

Dataquest Japan credited the combination of low prices and the spread of the IBM-compatible standard for this year's

# Compiled by Our Staff From Despatches BANGKOK - Thai Air-

The nirline carned 3.12 billion baht (\$124 million) in the this mouth year, up from I.02 billion baht scheduled in the previous year. The airline did not break out fourth-quar-

mechai, an analyst at Dhana

efficiency and a 13 percent rise ed the carrier's net profit would in passengers, to 11.5 million, in fall to 2.5 billion baht in 1995, the year. 'I think the airline is Amaret Sila-on, who was rerunning a tighter ship thanks to cently named chairman of the

tor, the measure of average plane occupancy in terms of passengers and cargo, was 69.2 percent for the year, up from 65.6 percent the previous year.

But some analysts warned could decrease because it added three Airbus A-330s to its fleet scheduled for delivery next year. Each Airbus costs about \$110 million and scats about 350 passengers.

"Capacity is growing faster than passenger demand," said Gerard Kruithof, research manager for Peregrine Nithi Fi-The airline credited increased nance & Securities. He predict-

formance. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

# Big Truck Demand Drives Up Output At Japanese Firms

TOKYO — Robust demand mestic sales and exports," a for heavy trucks and recreational vehicles is pulling Japan's vehicle output higher after more domestic output rose 13.8 per-than two years of declines or cent from a year earlier, and a flat growth, industry sources said Thursday.

output rose 2.5 percent from a mand for the company's Pajero year earlier, to 950,199, marking Mini and FTO sports car. a year-on-year gain for the second straight month, the Japan 25 months, was 0.4 percent.

An association spokesman said the November rise was caused primarily by strong demand for heavy trucks, and industry sources said they expected more gains in December.

Japan's domestic truck output has been rising since June, helped by tighter rules on overloading introduced in May. In November, truck output rose 16.6 percent, to 251,611.

Hiroshi Suemasa, an analyst at Kankaku Research Institute, predicted Japan's total vehicle output would rise by 3 percent or 4 percent in December as consumers who bought cars during the economic boom of the late 1980s begin to buy replacements. He also predicted exports would remain strong.

The automakers' association agreed that car output was in the previous year. headed for recovery, although in November it slipped for the 20th straight month, dropping 1.9 percent from a year earlier,

"The rate of decline in No- to profitability came in the secvember was the smallest this and half. Isuzu posted a firstyear." the association spokes- half loss of 6.2 billion year. man said. "It's a matter of time until car output posts gains." November output by Japan's tor Corp., rose 3.5 percent from

Toyota's December output will continue posting year-on-

government support.

HONG KONG - Moody's Investors

Service Inc. said Thursday it was reviewing

its rating on bonds from two publicly con-

trolled companies in Guangdong Province, citing an "apparent weakening" in central

Moody's said it would be looking at the bonds of Guangdong International Trust & Investment Corp. and Guangdong Enterprises, both controlled by the govern-

ment of China's most prosperous province,

to see how they fared under the country's new policy of giving corporations and local governments increased responsibility for their own finances.

The New York-based rating concern is

concerned about how the new policy might affect provincial enterprises' ability to pay

their debts, said Stephen Taran, head of

"It's good for China," Mr. Taran said of

the new policy. "A country of 1 billion can't be controlled from the center. But

there's no track record of what they will do

Kong, Guangdong's economic progress has outpaced that of most other Chinese

Because of its location next to Hong

with the new authority.

credit research at Lehman Brothers Inc.

a year earlier.

year gains in view of strong do-Toyota spokesman said.

Mitsubishi Motors Corp.'s spokesman for the company predicted output would continue to Japan's November vehicle rise in December. He cited de-

Mazda Motor Corp,'s output rose 18.4 percent in November, Automobile Manufacturers As- and a company spokesman said sexuation said. The gain in October, the first year-on-year rise in the Latis model, known as the 323 F in Europe.

Nissan Motor Co.'s November output fell 13 percent, but the company said it expected a turnaround next month. The company said it was launching new models in January and expected strong demand for its Rasheen recreational vehicle.

### ■ Isuzu Returns to Profit

Isuzu Motors Ltd. said Wednesday that strong truck sales and streamlining of its production facilities led to its first pretax profit in four years, news agencies reported.

Isuzu, which is 37.4 percent owned by General Motors

Corp., posted current profit of 4,739 billion yen (\$47 million) in the year to Oct. 31, reversing from a loss of 10.20 billion year Isuzu's shares gained on the

news, closing up 6 yen, at 495. Since Monday, the company's shares have climbed 5 percent. The company's turnaround

Isuzu's overall sales fell 15 percent in the year, to 359,055 units, but the decline in unit biggest carmaker, Toyota Mo- sales was linked to the company's move out of the passengercar business, a spokesman said. Truck sales have been rising. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

tive grade.

# Sega to Make Saturn Video-Game Machine Abroad

China's largest regional channels for for-

eign investment. It has raised \$4 billion in

foreign investment in the last 14 years, including bonds, syndicated loans and export credits.

■ McDonald's Site Dispute Goes On

A Hong Kong company that wants to build on the site of a McDonald's restan-

rant in Beijing denied it had stopped work on the project or that the project lacked approval, The Associated Press reported.

Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., the flag-ship of Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing, said instead it was seeking to expand its planned \$1.2 billion commercial com-

plex on Wangfujing Street, Beijing's busi-est shopping district.

Beijing officials told McDonald's in No-

vember to vacate its two-story restaurant

on Wangfujing - the worldwide fast-food

chain's largest outlet — to make way for the Oriental Plaza commercial complex.

site and insisted on talks with city officials.

McDonald's said it had a lease on the

TOKYO - Sega Enterprises Co. said Thursday it would have its new videogame machine, the Saturn, manufactured elsewhere in Asia starting next year to cut costs and battle increased competition.

The two companies have a total of \$700 Gnangdong International said it would million of long-term debt outstanding, review the Moody's announcement before

Guangdong International Trust's debt is making a comment. The company is one of rated Baal, and Guangdong Enterprises' China's largest regional channels for for-

A spokesman for Japan's second-largest maker of video games said the company had not decided on a manufacturer yet but that a "major Taiwanese computer maker" was the most likely choice. The Saturn is now made in Japan by Hitachi Ltd. A Japanese newspaper.

Moody's to Review Guangdong's Rating

rating is Baa3, just one level above specula-

Guangdong is the only one of China's 23 provinces to have credit ratings, although Shanghai, Beijing, Shandong and Jiangsu are strong possibilities for future credit ratings, Mr. Taran said.

The credit review process does not nec-

essarily mean the debt will be downgraded.

Last week, Standard & Poor's Corp. criticized what it called China's "capri-

cious behavior," saying that recent cases involving bad debts and the breaking of a contract with McDonald's Corp. could

Lehman Brothers has filed two lawsuits

in New York seeking to recover nearly \$100 million in debts owed by Chinese

An executive of Guangdong Enterprises' Hong Kong office said that "from the per-spective of market reforms, it can be argued that the relationship of central government

and local government is not so strong."

damage its credit ratings.

trading companies.

Taiwan was also being considered for the cially in Japan. manufacturing contract.

comment, saying the company had not seas for some time. heard from Sega about the plan to move In November, Sega reported a 43 per-production overseas. He declined to disclose the value of the current contract or months ended Sept. 30. how many units Hitachi produces.

lion world market for video games. The amusement machines.

Nikkan Kogyo, said a Hitachi unit in competition is intense everywhere, espe-

Sega said it had been discussing mov-A Hitachi spokesman declined to ing production of the game player over-

Separately, Agence France-Presse re-By shifting production overseas, Sega ported that Sega said it had asked the hopes to cut costs enough to make it an British government to drop plans to exeven stronger competitor in the \$15 bil- tend gaming duties to commercial

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Investor's Asia

Wheelock & Co.'s consolidated profit attributable to shareholders during the six months to September rose 13 percent, to 1.06 billion Hong Kong dollars (\$137 million), with its Wharf (Holdings) Ltd. property unit contributing 66 percent of the total.

Japanese companies gave their workers raises averaging 3.0 percent in 1994, the smallest increase in 25 years, the Labor Ministry said.

 Sumitomo Construction Co. will close its U.S. subsidiary at the end of January and Tokyu Construction Co. will close its unit in Hawaii at the end of the month because of unprofitable results. Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia Bhd. has asked Deutsche Aerospace AG to help Maiaysia's entry into the satellite component industry.

• Japan's leading economic index stood at 50.0 points in October, down from a revised 58.3 points the previous month, the Economic Planning Agency said.

 Electronic Industries Association of Japan predicted that electronics production in the country would expand by 2.2 percent

BTR Nylex Ltd. said it would buy FM Holdings Inc., the U.S.based parent of Formica Corp., for 800 million Australian dollars AP, AFP, Bloomberg, Reuters.

Thai Airways Profit Triples Amid Rise in Passengers The airline's overall load fac-

ways International Ltd. said Wednesday its profit more than tripled in its financial year to Sept. 30 because of an increase in passenger traffic and greater that the airline's load factor

ter figures.
"These are surprisingly good numbers," said Narongsak Plod-Siam Finance & Securities.

restructuring," said Thamnoon airline, said the carrier's first Wanglee, who just completed priority next year would be his first year as president of safety rather than financial per-

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# U.S. Agency Shielded Aides in Harassment Cases

By Stephen Engelberg and Deborah Sontag

Very York Times Service WASHINGTON - The harassment of Ginger Kramer began shortly after she took a job as an automation clerk in the Livermore, California, office of the Border Patrol. In a sworn statement to investigators, she said that her boss. J. William Carter, crudely invited her to have sex on his office couch. She pushed him away as he tried to embrace her, she said.

A few weeks later, Mr. Carter ordered Ms. Kramer to deliver his newly laminated identification card to his office, she told investigators. He grabbed her again, and this time forced his tongue into her mouth, peered down her blouse, and declared that he would not let go until she "did it right."

Mr. Carter denied the countable for egregious wrongcharges. But the Immigration and Naturalization Service conduded in 1990 that there was "no question" that Ms. Kramer had been sexually harassed.

And the Justice Department, finding that Mr. Carter had engaged in "highly unprofessional conduct with Ms. Kramer and other female employees," urged the agency to punish him or remove him from the managenal ranks.

Even so, the agency balked at taking any disciplinary action againsi Mr. Carter until last year, when they suspended him for three days. Today, he is the second highest ranking official in the Border Patrol.

Mr. Carter's case illustrates what many immigration officers see as the agency's historic failure to hold its managers ac- ment's most troubled agencies. tions.

doing. They say a "good old boys club" has often protected people like Mr. Carter, the third generation of his family to serve in the Border Patrol. Cynics within the agency sum up its personnel practices with the motto: "Screw up - move up."

"There is a philosophy among the top-ranked managers that you can't touch top management," said James Dorcy, the agency's chief internal investigator from 1980 to 1990. "For some reason, they seem to think it would hring down the whole damn agency if you messed with a certain level of person.

Immigration officials say that the handling of misconduct cases over the years has eroded morale at one of the govern-

Richard J. Hankinson, the inspector-general at the Justice Department from 1990 to 1994. told Congress last year that the agency's "happenstance" system for imposing punishment had taken its toll, encouraging corruption and poor perfor-

mance. The immigration service, in a statement, acknowledged that it had "an odmittedly checkered record" in disciplining its empluyees. But officials insisted that Doris M. Meissner, who became INS commissioner a year ago, is cracking down un officials who deserve to be disciplined by establishing an Office of Internal Audit.

And in October, they say, the agency began doing hackground checks on all job applicants for top managerial posi-

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# Family's Plight Melts City's Hard Heart

# Washington Couple's Two Children Have a Rare Fatal Illness

By Phil McCombs Washington Post Service

The state of the s

WASHINGTON - "Good morning." says Ramon Casso with a warm smile, opening the door of the big downtown office building for a woman. They exchange pleasantries as she breezes by. Then, as if remembering something, she slows and turns to the doorman.

"How are you and your family today?" she asks in a tone that says she really wants to know.

"I've got a lot of people praying for us." Mr. Casso replies. His smile fades to gentle sadness. "Thank you." Mr. Casso, 44, and his wife. Maritza.

30. learned in September that their 8year-old son, Juan, bas ALD, or adrenoleukodystrophy, the rare and often fatal metabolic disease portrayed in the movie "Lorenzo's Oil." Since then, the boy has gone blind and is beginning to lose his hearing. If the disease, which is inherited. continues as doctors expect, this will be followed by loss of his mental faculties. paralysis and an early death. There is no

in October, doctors confirmed the couple's worst fears: Their 1-year-old. Jose, also has ALD. He could begin developing symptoms when he is 4.

"When I called my wife and told her."

Mr. Casso says, "sbe just screamed:

Why the baby, God? Why the baby?"

People in the Brawner Building, in the northwest section of Washington, where Mr. Casso has worked for four years. have been deeply affected. They are amazed he can bear misfortune so well. showing up for work, friendly and help-

The building's 30 corporate tenants. comprising roughly 300 souls, have chipped in \$9,000 to help pay for the sick boys' medication and special diets, which cost hundreds of dollars a month. People drop off checks at the Brawner office or hand them directly to Mr. Casso as they stream through the door past the gaily decorated Christmas tree with their cups of coffee and briefcases in hand. Often he greets them by name. Often

they stop and talk. "Ramon's been kind of a beacon down at that front door. He doesn't carry his hurden on his shoulder," says Carlene Owen, a grandmother who is the receptionist at Flather & Perkins fnc., fine art insurers. "The whole building has been kind of brought together as a family, if that makes any sense."

Debbie Walsh is retiring after 12 years with Waters Travel. "It's just unfair." she says, "You can't pick up the phone and ask someone to do anything for our

friend because there's nothing you can do. There's no program to fix this." Up on 11. Dek Potts is a 36-year-old. hard-charging, commercial real estate guy with a swarm of file folders on the floor and a copy of the Wall Street Journol on his desk. He knows what it's like to "just get into your own little space and put blinders on to make your way

through the day." But he's got a couple of little ones at home and a soft heart.

Something like this makes you step back and realize how fortunate many of us are not to have to live a nightmare." he says. "The human spirit is remarkable. So often you don't stop to help the guy

Jose, 1, and Juan, 8, have an incurable metabolic disease portrayed in the movie "Lorenzo's Oil."

on the side of the road, or you don't even stop to say hello to someone. But when you do, il can turn out to be a great

Though Juan takes 50 milligrams daily of the costly Lorenzo's Oil, Mr. Casso and his wife have been told their son's illness was probably discovered too late for the medication to slow his deterioration. Their insurance does not cover the oil, a mixture of fatty acids named for ALD sufferer Lorenzo Odone, because it is still being studied by the Food and Drug Administration to determine its

The Casso boys' doctors at the Kennedy Krieger fustitute in Baltimore, however, say both will soon be enrolled in an experimental government-funded program that will pay for their medication.

Brawner's vice president. Michael Lowe, wrote in a recent company circular that the support his tenants have shown for the Cassos "confirms that even in this day and age of violence and distrust, deep within all of us lies a caring person

Mr. Lowe, 38, calls himself the office tough guy — actually, he uses a more colorful word — but when talking about Mr. Casso, his eyes get glassy.
"I used to work till 10 every night," he

admits, "and I don't want to work that late anymore. You want to spend a little bit more time with your children, enjoy what you have. When you see Ramon and what he's going through, you hug 'em one extra time."

"The man is like a family to me." Mr. Casso says. "Since I met him in 1991, he's always been there — in everything." Maybe it takes a tough man to run a

tender building. Ramon Casso arrived in the United States from the Dominican Republic during the blizzard of 1966 in one of those great family sagas of immigration upon which historical novels and Smithsonian exhibits are based. He was 16, fleeing the upheavals in his homeland with his sisters to join his parents in

Washington. The elder Casso, a butcher by trade, was happy to find work doing party setups at a hotel. Ramon attended Lincoln Junior High and also worked nights at the hotel. His mother was a cleaning woman. When be was 17, the family moved to Boston, where he finished school and became a carpenter. After his father died, the family drifted back south, and now his 81-year-old mother lives in Silver Spring, Maryland, at the hub of her large family.

Ramon and Maritza live with their sons in a rented apartment. They met in 1989 when he made an emergency family visit to Santo Domingo. f1 was love at first sight. They began a commuter man riage as Ramon, who had become a U.S. citizen, struggled to bring his wife and her young son Juan to America.

In October 1993, after intervention by Representative Connie Morella, Republican of Maryland, Maritza arrived in Washington very pregnant with Jose It took half a year to get young Juan cleared, and he arrived on June 1.

Mr. Casso remembers how Juan sprinted across the crowded airport loband leapt into his arms. At last, all four members of the little family were

Three weeks later, the boy's uncle tossed him a soccer ball and it went right past.

He hadn't seen it. Mr. Casso opens the apartment door. in shirtsleeves, cradling little Jose in the .crook of his arm. Inside, Juan is smiling shyly and cling-

ing to his mother. My name is Juan Casso," Juan says in English, giggling proudly at his ac-

complishment. Then he clings to his mother again. His movements are awkward.

Juan's biggest disappointment about losing his vision, his father says, is that he will not get to see snow. When the boy arrived, he had never experienced a northern winter and was thrilled at the prospect. So he prays to see snow. Just a little bit.

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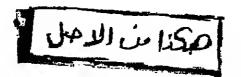
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settlement without a tax because the league thought it is important "not to draw a line in the sand and paint ourselves into

part of the deal.

The tax has been the primary sticking point in attempts to end the lockout, which

Although Stephane Richer of the New

Hausman's lecture "showed there would

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# **SPORTS**

# Again on the Brink, Baseball Players Make New Proposal

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON - Less than 11 hours proposal." before the midnight deadline the owners had set for either reaching a settlement on contract talks or imposing a salary cap, the striking major league baseball players made a new proposal Thursday.

"We've been working on something the last several days," the head of the players' union. Donald Fehr, said at 2 P.M., about 30 minutes after negotiations were resumed. "We did present a modified proposal to the owners a few minutes ago. They're

looking at it and will get hack to us." The owners had voted on Dec. 15 to declare a labor impasse and implement their salary cap demands unless an agreement was reached by 12:01 A.M. Friday. Thursday's meeting was the first formal bargaining session since contract talks were broken off eight days earlier in Ryc Brook, New York.

"We think it addresses their concerns," said David Cone, a pitcher for the Kansas City Royals. "We feel like we've made another extended reach. It's a significant

The federal mediator William J. Usery Jr. had spent Tuesday and Wednesday morning shuttling between the sides.

The two sides did not meet at all during the day. Each did meet at separate locations with Usery - the players three times, the owners once - then awaited further word from the mediator, who apparently was not having a happy 71st hirthday.

"We're doing everything we can to keep it going," he said late Wednesday, "but it's

The atmosphere was painfully similar to that which existed just before the players struck on Aug. 12 and just before Bud Selig, the acting commissioner, announced on Sept. 14 that the World Series would be

This had followed a three-hour, one-onone meeting Tuesday night between Fehr and Jerry McMorns, owner of the Colorado Rockies, who was designated by the

owners' negotiating committee to try to make some progress in the dispute.

McMorris appeared to have gained no more ground than Richard Ravitch, the soon-to-be former chief labor executive for the clubs, and John Harrington of the Boston Red Sox, the chairman of the owners' negotiating committee.

McMorris, too, had tried to sell the players on a luxury tax on team payrolls as a way of gaining control of salaries and labor costs. But, Fehr, speaking afterward, said: This meeting, although friendly on a personal level and candid, leads to a candid description of our differences, which remain. That's what we talked about."

Several management sources had said they were willing to compromise on the level of a payroll tax. But before addressing that issue, Fehr had said he wanted the owners to rework the revenue-sharing agreement they came up with in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, last Jan. 18. The union's economists think the subsidies that deal would produce for small-market frantives to win and lower salaries. "It's difficult because they say Fort Lau-

derdale is sacrosanct," Fehr said. It took owners a year to reach the revenue-sharing agreement, and management

is reluctant to revise the way their teams will split the money. "They told us it's complicated and it's

tied to Fort Lauderdale and revenue sharing," the Philadelphia Phillies' co-general partner, Dave Montgomery, said. "We say make whatever assumptions you want on revenue sharing and make us a proposal on a secondary tax."

In the only development on the 132d day of the strike, the National Labor Relations Board formally issued a complaint on the union's unfair labor practice charge stemming from the clubs' failure to make a \$7.8 million payment to the players' pension and benefit plan last Aug. 1. The board scheduled a bearing for March 14 before an administrative law judge in New York.

The board's seven-page complaint,

chises would decrease those teams' incenan indictment, covered two issues, saying the owners did not make the payment because the players had announced their intention to strike and that the failure to make the payment served as discrimination against the players, who would be discouraged from joining the union.

The board also said the owners "have been failing and refusing" to bargain with the union in good faith.

The question of good-faith bargaining will be at the core of the union's challenge to the owners' impasse. Daniel Silverman, director of the labor board's New York office, said the case would be handled on an expedited basis.

If the board's investigation determined there was cause to issue a complaint, the general counsel, Fred Feinstein, would recommend to the board that it seek an injunction in U.S. District Court blocking the owners' implementation of the salary

# Hockey Players Toughen Stand After Tax Talk

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches TORONTO - The locked-out National

Hockey League players have taken an even stronger stand against the owners' proposed payroll tax following a lecture from an economics professor.

Jerry Hausman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology told 240 members of the NHL Players Association meeting here Wednesday that the tax would work much like a rigid cap in stilling salaries.

"There's no deal to be made with a tax. That's what came out of this meeting, said Larry Murphy, a Pittsburgh defense-man. "They're not going to get all the concessions we made and then lay a tax on top of it. If they withdraw the tax, the deal will be done in a day."

Although sources had said that the league had offered to take the tax off the table, the NHL's spokesman, Arthur Pincus, denied Wednesday it bad been withdrawn. A fax to the 26 teams, read by a management source, said: The news report that the NHL bas made a proposal that does not include a tax is erroneous. The last proposal the league made to the players association was Dec. 6."

Formal negotiations between the two sides broke off Dec. 6 in Chicago when NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman reintroduced the concept of a payroll tax, a new version that would tax total payrolls by as much as 25 percent if they exceeded \$18 million in the first year. Subcommittees from both sides met last

week and discussed the possibilities of a settlement with and without a payroll tax. A league official involved in the bargaining confirmed Wednesday that those discussions took place on a conceptual level without an official proposal being formulated for a settlement without a tax, at least from his point of view. But a union attorney who was part of those talks said it was his impression that

the league was discussing an authentic pro-posal without a tax. Several players said Wednesday that no proposal without a tax had been presented to them, on a formal basis, in writing. The league executive, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the league remained willing to continue to discuss a

corners. But the league executive stressed that the league would prefer a payroll tax as

has wiped out the first 82 days of the NHL season and endangers the rest.

With no new talks scheduled, it appeared as if there would be no solution until after the holiday weekend.

"I do not have a plan when negotiations tive director of the union, said following Wednesday's meeting. "At the proper point in time, Gary and I will be in con-

Jersey Devils has said many players would agree to a tax, those leaving the meeting Wednesday said any dissension was based on a misunderstanding about the tax.

be a problem for each and every guy negotiating a contract," said Tom Kurvers, a defenseman for the Anaheim Mighty

# Wilkens Closes on Auerbach's Mark

By Ken Denlinger

WASHINGTON - Lenny Wilkens and Red Auerbach were raised in Brooklyn, and that's where the obvious similarity

They are from different sporting genera-tions and affect dramatically different personas, Auerbach as forceful as a punch in the mouth and Wilkens as dignified as a tap on the shoulder.

Yet they share the rare ability to move exceptional athletes toward a common goal at the highest level of the most grace-ful team game, hasketball.

Soon, likely before the New Year, their coaching accomplishments will intersect at a phenomenal number: Auerbach's 938 regular season National Basketball Association victories. And then the Atlanta Hawks' Wilkens quickly will bave everyone chasing him.

"This will be huge," Wilkens said of the victory that will push him past Auerbach. "This will top everything.

Auerbach has been waiting for this sneaker to fall, and for more years than he ever expected. Waiting in Boston initially; here in Washington of late. Waiting with a contradictory attitude that comes across as gracious arrogance, Going into Thursday night's games, Wilkens was just three back.

Auerhach is ready for the exchange of places at the top, though not without a few parting shots that will delight those who remember him — some not too fondly as one of the great competitors in sport. His first thought on the matter: "Re-

cords are made to be broken." His second thought: "It's taken 28 years for somebody to break it, so I feel pretty

good about that." His third thought: "It's taken Lenny more than 20 years to do it - I did it in 20." (Indeed, when Wilkens has one more victory than Auerbach, he also will have

more than 300 more losses.) His fourth and fifth thoughts: "They play more games now. But Lenny deserves it. Hell of a guy. Good coach. Solid. I'm

glad for him. Talk about unparalleled longevity; either Auerbach or Wilkens has coached during all but three seasons of the NBA's

48-year history.
"Red and Lenny always seem a bit flexible, as far as players are concerned," said Tom (Satch) Sanders, the NBA's vice president for player programs, who played for Auerbach and has observed Wilkens closely. "They let the players know they're in charge, but they also let the players play.

Sanders chuckled over the telephone about his old coach and said, "Red had an unreasonable interest in wanting to win

every game,"
"Red was a big inspiration in my career," said the Cleveland Cavaliers' general manager, Wayne Embry. "Lenny bas been

able to stay around at a time when many coaches don t." Embry played two seasons for Auerbach's Boston Celtics and worked with

Wilkens during the latter's seven-year tenure as the Cavaliers' coach. In one way or another, NBA coaches

and general managers have been chasing Auerbach ever since be joined the league in

"It's taken 28 years for somebody to break it, so I feel pretty good about that."

Red Auerbach

1946, in its initial season. When he retired from the bench, after the 1966 playoffs, smoking one of those postgame cigars that had come to symbolize glorious victory to his admirers and smelly haughtiness to his enemies. Auerbaeb had all the significant

Gradually, a few have fallen. Pat Riley has passed Auerhach for most playoff games coached and most playoff victories. Jack Ramsay had a chance at Auerbach's regular season mark, but fell 74 victories short. Dick Motta was the next challenger. hut couldn't get past 856 victories before being fired by the Sacramento Kings during the 1990-91 season.

Once Wilkens sails past Auerhach, several others also will. In his second life with the Dallas Mavericks, Motta has a fine young team. One of Auerbach's Celtic pups, Don Nelson, is about four seasons away. Riley is about five.

Riley is the coach who may concern Auerhach the most. All the others who may pass him in total victories have winning percentages that pale in comparison

to his .662. Riley's, bowever, is .720. Even so, Auerbach still is the only coach to have won more than 1,000 NBA games. That's 938 in the regular season and 99 in the playoffs. Wilkens won't hit 1,000 until a few games after be passes Auerbach's regular season record. Eventually, Wilkens

and a few others will top that 1,037 mark. But no one will surpass Averbach as the

NBA's seminal figure.
From Auerbach through Wilkens, the
NBA has changed so much. Auerbach had the same cornerstone players for nearly all of his extraordinary run. Wilkens has the advantage of faster and more orderly trav-

"There are a lot more teams now, not so much quality depth," said Rod Thorn, the NBA's vice president of operations and a former assistant to Wilkens. "With free agency, it's hard to get talent -and barder to keep it. But with more tools available to a coach, such as tape, there's more to do

after a game."
Auerbach is 77. He had quintuple heart bypass surgery on June 18, 1993. A hand-ball injury led to a permanently crooked right index finger. Ironically, Auerbach was only 48 when be quit coaching.

Burned out after 20 years," be admitted. "Years ago, it was very easy for that to happen, Travel, Hostile fans, Referees, You wouldn't get the shake like you get today. As a result, you had to be fighting all the time. It was tougher on you emotionally."

Wilkens started as a player-coach with the Seattle SuperSonics in 1968-69, three seasons after Auerbach retired. He took the dual role only after some powerful persuasion from the general manager, Dick Vertlieb, and said earlier this week during a conference call:

"I never had a clue I'd be where I am." Wilkens has a fond memory of that first season: being down to the Cincinnati Royals by four points with 28 seconds left. He designed a play that resulted in a dunk. then ordered a full-court press that produced a basket to force overtime and even-

"I said to myself: "Yeah, I think I can coach in this league."

There has been just one NBA title for Wilkens, with Scattle in 1979. He called that "incredible" and added: "I want to have it again." Wilkens says his strengths are being

consistent. That includes making everyone accountable and respecting one another. Like Auerbach with the Celtics. Wilkens stresses defense. "So far," he said, "it's worked." Including his exceptional career as a player, Wilkens has been involved in near-

y 3,000 NBA games. How could he possibly get himself so energized over such a long haul?
"If you can't turn the game loose, you've



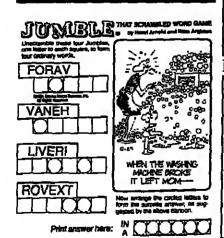
CORRALLED - Derrick McKey slid by Toni Kukoc to score as the Pacers held the Bulls under 100 points for the fifth straight game and won, 107-99.

got problems," he said. "I've been fortunate to be able to turn loose when I leave Auerbach, but admitted: "I think I'm as the arena. I'm devoted to my family. I also enjoy economics, politics. I read a lot."

Wilkens deflected comparisons with good a coach as any ... I work. Once I start on something I want to be good at it."

# **DENNIS THE MENACE**





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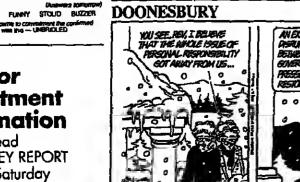
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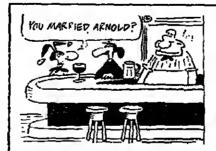




# CALVIN AND HOBBES



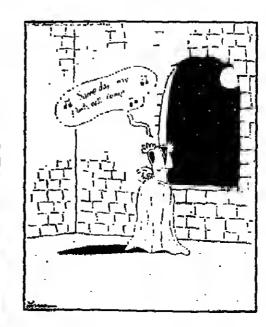
### WIZARD of ID







THE FAR SIDE







five this season.

the winner.

per-star, a three-time Olympic

champion, clocked the fastest time in both runs to beat Urs

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today's was better than yester-

Tomba, known as La Bomba

-The Bomb - for his explosive style between the gates, had

won four slalons prior to this

giant slalom, with two victories

on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Including the two last races

has won a record six consecu-

turned in three times by Inge-

mar Stenmark and matched

played trumpets and shouted. "Alberto you are the greatest!"

widened Tomba's overall lead

in the World Cup standings.

modt of Norway.

Thursday's triumph, before a

once hy Marc Girardelli.

day's. I love them all."

# Tomba, Winning First Giant Slalom in 3 Years, Runs Victory Streak to 5



Alberto Tomba got a warm welcome from his friend Yukon after an incredible three days that saw three victories.

### SCOREBOARD

TO STORE OF STREET

**NBA Standings** 

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WESTERN CONFERENCE

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SCHAY'S DESULTS WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit 31 27 22 19— 99
New Jersev 23 39 25 27—117
D: Mills 10-18 6-2 25, Hill 6-19 11-13 23; NJ:
Gilliom 11-13 5-6 27, Morris 5-11 1-7 22, Rebeutids—Detroit 47 (Lectater 9), New Jersey

beunds---Detroit 47 (Lackner ?), New Jersey
61 (Brown 91, Assists---Detroit 10 (Hill, Dowkins 6), New Jersey 33 (Anderson 17),
Milwowkee 23 26 34 19 8 13--122
Moonl 35 16 21 29 8 22--122
MAL: Baker 10-21 6-7 26, Robinson 7-21 6-3 21,
Day 7-15 6-825; MI: Rice 9-28-30, Willis 71-16
1-7-92, Coles 7-29 8-11 22, Rebounds---Miwoukee 48 (Baker 13), Microit 65 (Willis 34), Assists---Milwoukee 17 (Murdock 6), Microit 25

Chicoro
Indiana
23 26 32 24-49
C: Kukoc 11-792-224. Armstrone 11-223-427;
I: Smits 9-12 7-9 25. Workman 6-10 4-4 79. Rebounds-Chicoso 44 [Kukoc Wernstraton 9],
Indiana 38 [D.Davis 111. Assists-Chicoso 26 [Kukoc 7), Indiana 19 [Jockson 6],
Sam Antenate
26 27 29 29-31
Deaver
5: Robinson 9-16 16-18 34, Del Nesro 7-13-5-5
20; D: Abdul-Rouf 8-15 3-3 21, R.Williams 4-12
64 14. Rechewids-Son Antonia 44 [Rediron 14], Deriver 30 [Majoribo 7], Assists-Son Antonio 26 [Johnson 12], Deriver 18 [Pack 6],
Orlando
12 23 42 27 27-92
C. O'Neof 14-16 4-15 32, Anderson 6-14 2-19;
LA: Murrory 9-23 6-0 (8), Vought 7-17 1-2 15,
Rebounds-Criando 54 [H.Grant 13], Las Angeles 68 [Sooty 9], Assists-Orlando 26 [Shaw 6), Las Angeles 22 [Richardson 11].

ACROSS

7 Pokes

14 Cartoon tot

13 Snub

15 Shocks

17 Guinea pigs

18 Go-aheads

18 Numbers on a letter

How the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' mee's college baskethall pull fored

Other Major College Scores

Foirteigh Dickinson 69, Wright St. 67 Novy 83, Florida Atlantic 64 New Hamashire 74, Milandi, Onio 77 Pithbursh BZ, Vermoni 68 Providence as, Bryani 68 St. Francis, Pa. 77, Cent. Connecticut St. 51 SOUTH

SOUTH
E. Tennessee St. 88, Corson-Newmon 82
Georsic 89, Winthrup 56
Manohis 92, Nicholis 51, 72
Tennessee Tech 89, Orol Roberts 85, OT
Texas Christian 100, Middle Tenn, 78
Vo. Commenweath 76, Tennessee St. 67
Vanderbill 81, Austin Pear 78, OT
W, Kenfucky 82, E. Kentucky 77
MAINTEET

W. Kenfucky KJ, E. Kéntűdky 77

Dovkot 74. Furnten ál
Instanc 89. Butter 66

K. Ittinels 78. Air Force 49
Nebrosko 191. Mr. Billinols 61

W. Illinols 61, Morthwestern 48

Xavier, Ohlo 181. CS Northvide 65

Castraumeev

FAR WEST FAR WEST
Boise St. 78, Son Jose St. 41
Long Beach St. 79, Manhana 69
New Mexico 76, Idaho 54
Portional 87, Consistus 78
Son Francisco 128, Mount St. Marry's Md. 91
Weber St. Bs. Brishiam Young 74
TOURNAMENTS
UNG Classic
Characteristics

Brackey 79, William & Mary 48

SOCCER

Departivo de La Coruna 1, Cetta 2
Barcelona 1, Betts 1
Dvisdo 1, Lograves 9
Real Sociedad 2, Albacete 9
Tenerife 1, Athietic de Bitboo 0
Votencia 8, Sporting de Gijen 0
Allatico de Aladria 8, Racine de Santander 1
Zarasaco 1, Espanol 0
Sevillo 3, Compostola 0
Standings: Zarasaco 23 points, Real Madria
21, Departivo La Coruno 21, Barcelona 28, Affiliatic de Bitboo 18, Betts 17, Sevilla 17, Espanol
16, Cetta 16, Tenerifo 14, Votencia 14, Composi-

14. Celta 14. Tenerife 14. Valencia 14. Com

Top 25 College Results

Widnesday:
3. Arkunas (7-1) best Florida A&A4 97-57.
Next: vs. Tutao, Friday: 8, Florida 15-21 best is Jacksonvilla 68-67. Next: vs. 81, Francia Po., Friday: 13. Clectonati (7-31 best in No. 24 California 29-76. Next: vs. No. 16 Georgia Tech of Manadath Victoria (18-18).

Honolulu, Wednesday. 14. Minnesota 16-3) lost to Texas Southern

Xovier, Ohio 101. CS Northridge 65 SOUTHWEST Houston EQ, McNeese St. 76 SW Texas St. 64, Ark-Little Rock 65 Sam Houston St. 85. Edwards. Texas 64 Texas-El Pago 86. Seattle 61

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION Departivo de Lo Coruna 1, Cella 2

DUTCH FIRST DIVISION Standings: Alax Amsterdam 24. Rodo JC Standings; Alox Amsterdam 24, Rodo JC Kerkrode 24, Twente Enschede 21, PSV Eind-hoven 71, Villesse Arnhym 20, Fevenoard Rol-lerdam 14, Heerenween 18, William 11 Tithurs 17, MVV Maastrichi 15, Groningen 14, Ulrecht 12, Soorte Ratterdam 13, NAC Breda 13, Volen-dam 12, NEC Nillmegen 11, RKC Woolwijk 18, GA Eogles Deventer 7, Dardrecht '90 4,

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLIES

**World Cup Results** 

Results of Thursday's rock in Alto Budio, Results of Tayriday's roce in Arto Bookle, Raily (heaf fines in perenthesps): 1, Alberto Tombo. Hally (1:09.17-1:00.18) 2.17.35: 2. Urs Koelin, Switzerland (1:09.17-1:08.33) 2.17.89; 2. Christiato Moyer, Austria 17:09.70-1:00.56) 2:17.96: 4. Kielli Andre Aq-

11:09.70-1:00.261 2:17.46: 4. K(etill Andre Ag-modf, Norwity (1:09.91-1:08.77) 2:18.58: 5. Hor-old Christian Strand-Nilsen, Norway 11:10.5-1:09.941 2:19.20. 6. More Giffordelli, Luxembourg 11:10.45-1:08.85) 2:19.20; 7. Losse Kius, Norway 11:10.78-1:09.71) 2:19.46: 8. for Piccard, France (1:10.38-1:09.40) 2:19.78: 9, Jura Kosir, Standard 1:10.78-1:10.78:19.84: 0. End de-Slovenia 11:10.74-1 09.10) 2:19.84; 10. Poul Acored (1:10.93-1:09.4)) 2:20.0). Gloss Sidleys Stoogleys (ARse three reces): 1, Adread, 190, 2, Alichael Van Gruen-lopes, Switzerlond, 180, 3, Kaelin, 175; 4, Tambo, 190; 5, Achim Voot, Liectherssich, 132; 6, Mayer, 199; 7, Koşir, 195; 8, Guenther Land Ander, Austria, 100; Y. Strand-Milsen, 91; 10,

DVERALL WORLD CUPSTANDINGS IAL DVERALL WORLD CUPSTANDINGS 1At-ter ten receal; 1, Tomba, 539 pelms; 2, Ao-modi, 302; 3, Van Gruenisen, 274; 4, Kosir, 255; 5, Aikchoel Trillscher, Austria, 230; 6, Moder, 234; 7, Pairick Orlileb, Austria, 230; 6, Thomas Sylarus, Austria, 216; 9, Tomas Fogdoe, Swe-den, 190; 10, Luc Alphand, France, 176.

BASEBALL
American Leasure
CLEVE LAND—Signed Dovid Lynch, pitcher, to a minor league contract, SEATTLE--Agreed to terms with Jay Bulwer, outfletder, on 3-year contract. Ploced

Bulaner, outfleider, on 3-year contract. Placed Eric Anthony, outfleider, on waivers for the surpose of shving him his unconditional release.

TORONTO—Signed Milice Nuff, outfleider, to 1-year contract. Sent Scott Brow, pitcher, outright to Syrocuse, IL.

Mathonal League COLDRADO—Resigned Marvin Freeman, pitcher, to 2-year contract. Declined to exercise their 1975 option on Willie Siste, pitcher, making him a tree open.

HOUSTON—Resigned Mill Thompson, out-fielder, in 1-year contract.

PITTSALIRGH—Stened Reb Leary, lirst boseman, to a minor league contract, SAN DIEGO—Announced the sale of the learn from Tom Warner to John Moores. FOOTBALL

Microsof Poetball Leveue ATLANTA—Placed Chuck Smith, deten-sive end, on infured reserve, Signed Duncton Anderson, defensive end, CINCINNATI-Placed Steve Browssord running back and Eric Moore, affensive tack

running deck, on a Eric Moor s, oversity in riche, on in lured reserve. Acquired Derek Work, tight end, off wolvers from Arizona and Lamant Hallinguest, thoobacker, off wolvers from Woshington, KANSAS CITY—Placed Pellan McDan-

KANSAS CITY—Placed Pellam ARCan-leis, detensive eng, and Donnell Bernett, tull-back, an Injured reserve, Signed Tornmie Slawers, running back. Activated Ronnie Waobfork, Inetbacker, Iram the practice sauad. Re-signed Shoumber Wright-Foir, run-ting back, is the practice squad. SEATTLE—Sisned Dian Lamber; and Dei Speer, safeties. Placed Rick Alfer, quarter-ters, safeties. Placed Rick Alfer, quarter-

bock, and Duane Bickett, linebacker, on In-WASHINGTON—Waived Lamont Hallin-quest, linebacker, Signed Calemon Bell, Hahr

COLLEGE
WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFCRCNCE—Norted John McNamure 0550cjele com-

CORNELL-Named Brian Austin assoclose officerior.
FRESND STATE—Extended the contract of Jim Sweeney, football coach, through 2000.

JACKSON STATE-Firm W.C. Gorde JACRSON STATE—Fired W.C., Gorden-otheric director, effective Dec. 17. Announced Elvatee Banks, vice president, will serve as interim athletic director. LSU—Suspended David Boster, sured, and Maha Mudavdzic, center, for one game for violating on NCAA rute by participating in a

school.
MICHIGAN STATE—Normed Gory Tronquill attensive coordinator; Jim Ballman of-tensive line coots; Kan Mannie strength and conditioning coots; Giern Piers defensive line or line backers coots; and Mark Damanio

secondary coach.
ANNESOTA-Ramed Jim Zoro quarter

SOUTHERN CAL—Named Rod Marineifl defensive line coach, TEXAS CNRISTIAN—Signed Pai Sullivan. tootholl coach, to a five-year contract exten

south cooks to a tree-year control exten-sion through the 1997 season.

TULANE—Announced that Donny Thiel-track and field coach, will resign on Dec. 31.

VIRGINIA—Mamed Crais Littlepope infer-ion othletic director.

CRICKET &

MANDELA TROPHY ONE DAY MATCH South Africa vs. Sri Lunko Wednostry, in Part Effenbeth South Africa Innibes: 2374 (30 overs) Sri Lunko's innibes: 1374 (30 overs) Sri Lunko's score adjusted due to rain (184). Result: South Africa wire by 44 rars.

Montana on March 20, 1992, celebrated in typical "La ALTA BADIA, Italy - Alherto Tomba won his first Bomba" style. He turned a somersault at the World Cup giant slalom race in nearly three years Thursday as

finish line, threw kisses to his fans, then knelt on the snow to he ran his sensational streak to exchange kisses with his dog. three victories in three days and He then set off on a victory The 28-year-old Italian su-

parade on skis, pulled around hy the white dog, a gift from his sister Alessia. "I am not crying, I got some

seconds down the steep Gran Risa track at this resort in the ersault." Tomba said. "It's a great year for me. And I'm building up a lot of confi-dence for the next races." Italian Dolomite mountains, Christian Mayer of Austria was third, 0.61 seconds behind

"I had been expecting this day for a long time." Tomba first place after the initial run. in 1:09.17. In the second run, Tomba said. "I really wanted to win was clocked in 1:08.18, for a this giant slalom, in this place.
"The latest victory is always

the most exciting but I can't say the snow with a glove before

at Lech Am Arlberg, Austria, faultless runs to beat him." Kalin said, "I did a mistake and I

Tomba, off to better start than in even his golden 1987-88 tive slaloms, surpassing the men's World Cup record of five season, when he won two Olympic titles and nine World Cup races, said he knew from the opening giant slalom in Tignes that a victory in this discipline

> In the French resort, he rallied from a 21st-place first run to finish fourth, clocking the

Blaming sharp pains from a injured rib, he did not start in He has now a total of 550 points, 248 ahead the defending champion, Kjetil Andre Aa-Aamodt, who will have a

days, finished fourth Thursday. 1.23 seconds slower than

snow on my face after the som-He and Kälin were ned for

winning combined time of 2:17.35. Külin, who nearly fell at midway down course and hrushed

recovering his balance, had a second run of 1:08.63 for a combined of 2:17.80. "Tomba is almost perfect this season and you must ski two

from the 1993-'94 season, he finished behind."

partisan crowd of 5,000 that was possible.

fastest time in the second run.

the second run of the giant sla- on said he was getting in form lom at Val D'Isère in France. slowly, as usual for him. after posting the ninth best time knee operation over the holi- in the first heat.

the Sestriere slalom that he won next year, Tomha, whose previous giant on Dec. 12 and said he took

£140,000.

On the slopes he was all business, and fastest in both runs.

had to resort to injections of a 29. pain-killer in Lech.

Girardelli finished sixth here. trailing Tomba by nearly two seconds.

The five-time overall champi-

"Mare is improving race after race," said Tomba. "Look out He had badly bruised his for him in the January races and fourth rib while warming up for in the world championships"

Tomba's next opportunity statom victory came at Crans anti-inflammatory medication for victory will be the giant sla-

prior to Thursday's race. He lomat Meribel, France, on Dec.

He does not compete in speed races, which has prevented him from winning the overall title so far.

Tomba predicted that the downhill and super-G specialists will start closing the gap on him in the early January races, But, in the meantime, he has already piled up about two-thirds of the 822 points that earned him third place overall last season.

Aamodt won the title with

# St. Andrews Opens Door for Palmer at British Open

ST. ANDREWS. Scotland - Arnold Palmer will be invited to make a farewell

appearance at the home of golf.

The Royal and Ancient Golf Club announced Thursday that it had made a change in the rules that will allow Palmer one more appearance at the British Open, which returns to the Old Course at

St. Andrews in 1995. Instead of offering all past Open champions under 65 a place in the event. the club has altered the rule to read "65 or under." Palmer, who won the Open in 1961 and 1962, celebrated his 65th birth-

day on Sept. 10. "We had read that Palmer wanted to come back and play at St. Andrews,"

said the club's secretary, Michael Bonallack. "And if Palmer wants to come and play for his final Open, we thought we would accommodate him.

In response to concerns voiced by U.S. golfers over the high cost of taking part in the tournament, the club has also raised the minimum prize for those making the halfway cut. It was boosted by 25 percent, to £5,000 (\$7,750), with the winner's purse raised from £125,000 to

"We believe it is important to spread the prize money as widely as possible." Bonallack said. "It is a philosophy that not only recognizes the cost of competing in the championship for overseas

players but also offers tangible support to our far-reaching exemption policy.

"There is no doubt that these two elements are still the most effective way of maintaining the international strength of the field, which is what sets the Open

apart." The total purse for next year's tournament will be £1.25 million, an increase of

Exemptions will be given for the first time next year to the winner of the Senior British Open, Tom Wargo of the United States, and to the current European Amateur Champion, Stephen Gallacher,

The field will be increased to 159 to accommodate the new exemptions.

### SIDELINES

# AL Slugger Franco to Play in Japan

CHICAGO (AP) — Julio Franco, the designated hitter for the Chicago White Sox last season, has agreed to a two-year, \$7 million contract with the Chiba Lotte Marines in Japan, his agent,

Chuck Berry, said.

Franco, who will be reunited in Japan with Bobby Valentine, his former manager with the Texas Rangers, hit .319 with 20 homers and 98 RBI in his one season in Chicago.

Omar Vizquel, the best AL's fielding shortstop the last two seasons, has re-signed with the Cleveland Indians for \$2.85 million the first year, with a club option year worth \$3.35 million.

# For the Record

Takanohana, 22, was promoted to yokozuna in rankings announced by the Japan Sumo Association; the New Year Grand Sumo Tournament will now be the first in three years to have two grand champions: Takanohana and Akebono, as Chad Rowan of Hawaii is known.

Andreas Möller was ordered by a Frankfurt industrial tribunal to pay the Eintracht Frankfurt soccer club 2.6 million Deutsche marks (\$1.6 million) for breach of contract two years ago when he signed with Juventus. Negotiations between the Thoroughbred Racing Associations

and the Jockeys' Guild over insurance financing reached an impasse and, with time running out before the contract expires on Dec. 31, the leading U.S. riders could join baseball players and hockey players on the sidelines on Jan. 1.

The University of Colorado is considering an invitation to leave the new Big 12 Conference and join the Pacific 10. (LAT)

# Fox Loses Out to NBC-HBO **On Wimbledon TV Contract**

New York Times Service

NEW YORK - After severat weeks of delays, NBC and HBO have renewed their rights to the Wimbledon tennis tournament, beating out Fox. The combined five-year deal is worth an estimated \$26 million to \$28 million annually, at least 44 percent above the previous

Fox pulled out of the bidding

Wednesday after the All England Club abruptly changed the length of the deal to five years from six. Fox, which says it offered \$168 million for six years, an average of \$28 million annually, said it needed the extra year to rebuild sagging Wimble-don ratiogs and to balance expected early-year losses with the potential for an extra year of profits.

"We basically declined to bid on a five-year deal," said Vince what we would have had to Wladika, a Fox spokesman. come up w Although NBC will have to don sexy?"

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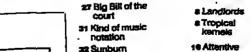
pay a lot more for a property that has lost money for the network, Dick Ebersol, the president of NBC Sports, said: "It's a good deal, and if tennis comes back, it'll be a terrific deal." He added: "As people get more and more TV choices, the

more events you have, the greater the likelihood that people will sample you."

NBC has televised Wimbledon for 26 years, HBO for 20.

By most measures, including TV ratings, tennis has been sliding. NBC's Wimbledon ratings have fallen from an average 4.1 from 1985 to 1989 to a 3.3 from 1990 to 1994. Ratings have fallen at HBO, too.

"We wish NBC and HBO all the best with the event," said David Hill, the president of Fox Sports. "But can you imagine come up with to make Wimble-



20 Bluejackets

23 With a whole

22 Music

Appreciation for one

35 Lead-in for tiops

36 Certain crimes

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as Domain for an Cleaned in a 42 Ending with pe) or plug 43 Preparing, with "up" 46 Famously cold Maine town 49 "Step on the se Fruity beverage 53 Electron tube

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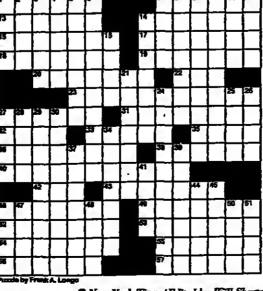
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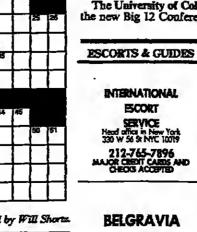
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Solution to Puzzle of Dec. 22



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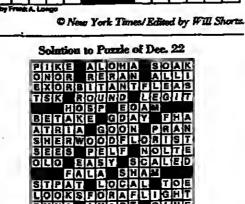
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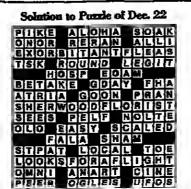
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2 Cultural





# A Louisville Legacy

By Mel Gussow

New York Times Service LENVIEW, Kentucky -Mary Bingham lives alone in an Italianate villa at Melcombe, the newspaper family's estate 15 minutes outside Lou- play bridge." isville. Surviving traumas as well as tragedies, she remains vigorous and self-composed. On Christmas Eve, she celebrates her 90th birthday.

was split by a bitter and very public conflict that resulted in the sale of the Bingham media empire, the cornerstone of which was The Louisville Courier-Journal, the Pulitzer Prizewinning newspaper known for its liberal positions.

The battle became front-page news and later provoked a chorus of investigative books. Bingham said that when her husband died, in 1988, "I hardly knew what would become of me, because our lives were so intertwined." Married for 57 years, Mary and Barry Bingham Sr. were always "the Binghams," the most famous couple in Louisville.

The Binghams had long been generous supporters of the arts, education and social programs, and the Mary and Barry Bingham Sr. Fund became her anchor. Taking over her hus-band's role in the foundation, she continued the distribution of money, which has now to-taled \$59 million, for everything from folk art to the Kentucky Center for the Arts, which includes an orchestra and ballet and opera companies. With the help of the Binghams, Louis-ville has become a thriving cultural community.

A primary beneficiary has been the Actors Theater of Louisville, which opened its new Bingham Theater this fall as part of a \$12.5 million expansion.

Three days a week, Bingham is in her office, working with her

Europe

staff in evaluating applications and making decisions that affect her city. She says her philanthropic activities have made her realize she "didn't have to join the battalion of widows who

Actually, she does play bridge, but it is not a major interest. And while on the subject of widows, she said: "They gather together in enclaves to Eight years ago, her family go to the arts. There are not enough men to go around, and they complain about it. I see men all the time. Now and then f have lunch with them.

An enemy of E-mail and a foe of the fax ("They are not literary documents," she says), she is committed to the written word, and traces her literary tastes back to her childhood. She has created an annual prize for an essay in Latin in honor of Edmonia Lancaster, who taught her Latin at Miss Virginia Randolph Ellett's School for Girls in Richmond.

Although she and other members of the family had allowed themselves to be interviewed extensively for several of the books about them, she found all the books "extremely painful." In one, she said, "Barry emerges as manipulative and indecisive," and the portrait of her "seemed to imply that I was a domineering sort of person." She said neither picture was true to life.

Bingham lives an extremely private life. She still spends long summers in her house on Cape Cod, and in June she is going on a Mediterranean cruise, sailing from Istanbul through the Greek islands, with a stop at Ephesus, which she visited many years ago with her husband. This time her granddaughter Emily, and Emily's husband, Stephen Reily, will be with her. She is looking forward to the voyage as "my 90th birthday present to myself."

Russell Baker is on vacation.

# New 'Jungle Book' Leaves Kipling Behind

By Robert F. Moss
NEW YORK — "Phew," says Major Boone after tasting the liquid dripping from a dank corridor in a ruined Indian city. Major Boone has kidnapped the lovely heroine, Kitty, and a second after he touches a match to the liquid, the two of them stare in wonder as flames race along a pas-

Who are these people? Major Boone, a smirking villain, and Kitty are certainly not in Rudyard Kipling's books, nor were they in the two previous "Jungle Book" movies, neither the 1942 live-action version with Sabu or Disney's animated version in 1967.

Still, Major Boone and Kitty are at the center of "Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book," a \$30 million Disney film which opens Sunday in the United States.

Stephen Sommers, the director and principal writer, says he decided to transform the familiar tale because no one could compete with the earlier animated effort. Nor did he see any way to weld the eight stories about Mowgli as a youth into a coherent narrative, as Alexander Korda tried to do in his 1942 version.

Instead, Mowgli, Baloo, Bagheera and the other famous jungle creatures become a point of departure for what Sommers calls a "romantic adventure

movie" in the tradition of his favorite director, Michael Curtiz. Sommers cites Curtiz's "Captain Blood" and "The Sea Hawk" as important influences on the current film. While the director's only previous feature, the 1993 Disney remake of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," did not stray far from Twain's text, Kipling purists should note the caveat in the opening credits of the new film: Based on characters created by Ru-

dyard Kipling."
As retooled by Sommers, Kipling's fable of a boy raised by wolves and forced to choose between the jungle and the "man-tribe" is now a costume drama set at a colonial outpost in India, where the feral Mowgli, captured by the English, learns the customs and ch of man and finds romantic love. speech of man and finds romanuc love. He also falls prey to treacherous British Army officers who coerce him into leading them to -- what else? - a fabulous treasure in a lost city.



Kipling (here in Reims during World War I) might be confused by latest film version of "The Jungle Book," "based on characters" he created.

as a form of courtship, apparently unaware that hibiscus has no scent.

The latest "Jungle Book" project

began when Raju Patel, an Indian

producer, decided it would be appro-

priate to commemorate the 100th an-

niversary of the publication of Kip-ling's stories. "The Jungle Books," written in 1894 and 1895, were origi-

nally two volumes containing 15 sto-

ries, mostly about animals. But "The

Jungle Book" gradually became iden-tified exclusively with the eight

Moweli tales, which were soon em-

braced throughout the world as a mas-

The cast includes Jason Scott Lee as Mowgli; Cary Elwes as Major Boone: Sam Neill as Colonel Brydon, the regimental commander; John Cleese as Dr. Plumford, a sort of kinder, gentler Basil Fawity; and Lena Headey (the upstairs maid from "The Remains of the Day") as Kitty, the Colonel's spir-

Despite the liberties Sommers took with Kipling's text, he incorporated some of the original work into his script, including the treasure-laden ruins that Kipling called the Cold Lairs, a jeweled dagger that substitutes for the "king's ankus" (a kind of elephant goad) and a motif derived from the metaphor Mowgli uses for fire, the

of empire, a coming of age story and In this film, the flower is a hibiscus, even a kind of coded autobiography of which Mowgli and Kitty sniff together the culturally conflicted, Anglo-Indi-

an Kipling, who spoke Hindi before he spoke English. But Sommers and his colleagues

faced obstacles in trying to film the stories in any form. The Korda film was by far the most faithful to Kipling and starred a genuine Indian teenager, Sabu, but it suffers from its artificial back-lot look and the obvious artificiality of the scenes between human characters and animals.

By contrast, Sommers, Patel and the co-producer, Edward Feldman, thought it essential that much of the film be shot in India and that as Sommers put it, "actors and animals be shown interacting in the same shot."
But \$30 million doesn't buy as

much authenticity as it used to, and the filmmakers had to work hard to film the Indian portion of their film in only six weeks. All the Indian location work was done in and around Jodhpur, near the Pakistani border.

Indoor scenes were shot on sweltering sound stages in Bombay (at temperatures up to 137 degrees Fahrenheit or 59 degrees centigrade), where the movie's centerpiece, a lost city, was meticulously constructed from mahogany, concrete and brick.

Creating the animal sequences in the new "Jungle Book" were the most daunting problem the filmmakers faced. In Kipling's complex, anthro-pomorphic world, wolves hold parliamentary debates, bears offer tutorials. and small boys ride panthers and py-thons. Such episodes could probably only be dramatized through animation or computer graphics.

Sommers was determined to avoid cinematic tricks. Accordingly, more than 50 animals - wolves, bears, tigers, elephants, panthers - and their almost equally numerous handlers were flown in and prepped for their roles. Except for an animatronic snake, all the animals in the movie are real. Lowell the orangutan, who plays King Louis, is the most likely Academy Award nominee among the beasts. Toying with his crown and mugging wildly, he is the reincarnation of the Louis Prima character in the animated

terpiece of adolescent fiction.

Mowgli's world can be viewed as an Robert F. Moss, the author of "Ruexuberant myth of boyhood, a parable dyard Kipling and the Fiction of Adolescence," wrote this for The New York

**WEEKEND SKI REPORT** 

### **PEOPLE**

### Palace Denies Report Of Rainier's Abdication

Paris Match reports that Prince Rainier of Monaco is preparing to abdicate next year in favor of his 36-year-old son. Albert, for health reasons. The palace denied that any such thing is going on. Paris Match said that the palace had ordered new uniforms for its staff with Albert's initials engraved on the buttons and that Monaco police had been ordered to cancel any vacations for February and March, when the abdication world take place. "We have no comment," a palace spokesman said, "but you can imagine that, if such an important decision had been made, there would have been a press release." Rainier, 71, underwent a double heart-bypass operation last

A court of appeal in Versailles. France, awarded 600,000 francs (\$110,000) in damages to the heirs of the director John Huston and coscript writer Ben Maddow for a colorized version of the blackand-white 1950 classic "The Asphalt Jungle." The court said the defunct French TV channel La Cinq and the Ted Turner distribution group had "damaged the creative activity" of Huston and Maddow.

George and Barbara Bush will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary next month at a gala country concert in their honor at the Grand Ole Opry.

Pearl Jam, the Seattle rock group whose touring plans were derailed last summer by a battle with Ticketmaster over service fees, will return to the stage in Washington for the first of what is expected to be a series of shows sidestepping the ticket gi-ant. Tickets to the benefit shows on Jan. 14 and 15 will be sold without a surcharge through a mail-order lottery system.

# WEATHER Forecast for Seturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather Europe Rome will have a few rainy episodes this weekend, and much of the Mediterranean Sea will have unsettled weather as well. The aur will shine Saturday and Sunday in Paris, Brussel's and Copenhagen, as well as in Borm and Berlin Rains are possible in Glasgow and Edinburgh. North America Asia.

Latin America Middla East

29/64 21/70 c 31/85 21/35 41/35 a 31/37 21/70 16/59 sh 22/71 27/80 23/73 1 29/84 24/75 12/83 a 26/73 11/82 -2/29 s 9/48 11/83 -2/44 s 13/55 00/86 24/76 ph 26/84 22/71 18/81 0 22/71 11/85 4/39 a 12/83 Africa North America

Resort	L			Res. Plates			Comments
Andorra Pas de la Casa	80	80	Good	Open	Pwd	22/12	Resort 70% open, piste skiing
Austria							
ischol	10	75	Good				14 Bits open, tresh snow
Kitzbuhel	15	25	Feir	Cled	Pwdr	22:12	Snow continues to tall
Obergurgi	35	85	Good	Open	Pwd	22/12	14/21 Wis open, good skiling
Sealbech	25	50	Good	Open	Pwdr	22/12	Fresh snow, improving conditions
St_Anton	20	110	Good	Орел	Pwdr	22/12	16/32 kits open, excellent skiing
Zurs	25	90	Good	Open	Pwdr	22, 12	17 Mrs. great Sluing, tresh powder
France	-	_					
Alpe d'Huez	10	90	Good	Art	Var	20/12	6 litts open, snow machines alting
Les Arcs	20	130	Good	Some	Ves	21/12	17 lifes, good sking above 2000m
Avoriaz	20	65	Good	Орел			Open pistes skilma well, 13 lifts
Les Contemines	5	70	Good	Cled		20/12	8/26 lifts open, 30cm at 1,600m
Courchevel	15	80	Good	Art	Pwdr	21/12	21 '68 lifts open, open runs good
Les Deux Alpes	5	150	Good	Clad			20/75 lifts open, skiling to 2600m
Megeve	0	45	Cled	Ctsd	Var	20/12	Sking at nearby Les Contamines
Méribel	10	BO	Good	Art	Ver	21/12	15cm of snow at mottaret, 1700m
La Plagne	20	115	Good	Clad	Pwdr	20/12	21./112 litts open, best on glacier
Serre Chevaller	0	10	n/a	n/a	Var	20/12	Snow machines in constant use
Tignes	45	100	Good	Open	Pwdr	20/12	20/50 lifts, great piste skiing
Val d'Isère	40	140	Good	Ореп			Great sking 35:51 bits open
Vel Thorens	50	120	Good	Open	Pwdr	21/12	19-30 titls open, excellent sloing
Germany							
Berchtesgeden	20	40	Foir	Clad	Pwdr	22/12	5:31 litts open, but snow telling
Garmisch	10	130	Good				Still only zugspilze skieble
Italy							
Bormio	10	70	Good	Clad	Pwdr	21/12	5 · 16 kfts and 15km of piste open

Var 19/12 11:23 litts open, 30cm of e

Resort			Mir. Pietes			Leet Snow	Continents
Selva Tonale		15					10 tits open, open pistas good Great string after fresh snow
Marway Gello	90	30	Fak	Open	Var	16/12	All 18 lifts, 20km cross country
Spata Baquiera-Beret	50	В0	Good	Open	Pwdr	21/12	80em Irash snow, भारत जल्ला 24th
Switzerland							
Adelboden	25	50	Good	Clad	Pwdr	22/12	6/23 lifts open, vestly improved
Crans Montana	10	40	Good	Cled	Pwdr	22/12	11/40 Mts open, glacier still best
Davos		80		Clsd	Pwdr	20/12	17:36 lifts open, good Duing
Getsed	10	115	Good				All upper slopes in good shape
Klosters	10	60	Good	Clad	Pwdr	20/12	Good skiling on open runs
Saas Fee	10	230	Good	CASO	Pwdr	20/12	15*26 lifts open, glacier very cold
St.Moritz	10	70	Good	Clad			10. 24 lifts open, fresh snow, good
Verbier		90		Cled	Var	20/12	16/39 lifts, greet on open pistes
Zermatt	15	135	Good	Cled	Pwor	20/12	25:37 lifts open very good skiing
U.S.							
Aspen	85	90	Good	Doen	Prkd	15/12	All B litts open
Mammoth	210			Open			All 30 lifts boen
Steamboat		115					All 20 lifts open
Telluride		115		Open	Pcke	14/12	All 10 lifts open
Vall	80	85	Good				All 25 lifts open

80 250 Good Open Pwor 20/12 20/26 lifts, 35cm of fresh snow

Key: L.U Depth in cm on lower and upper slopes, Inth. Plater Mountainside pistes. Ree.

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